

# Fruits Basket™

The #1 selling  
shojo manga  
in America!

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14

FRUITS BASKET

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shojo manga  
in America!

14

Shojo Manga

# Fruits Basket™

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14

Shojo Gendai

# Fruits Basket

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14

Shojo manga



Isuzu loves snooping through Shigure's life, especially when she's totally convinced that he is hiding something. But when Tohru finds a passed-out Isuzu in the house, she tries to drag Isuzu to the hospital. Meanwhile, Yuki goes to the ASB student council room only to find it trashed again! But as the secrets of who vandalized the room come out of the closet, Yuki accidentally gets locked in one. Who will be the one to help him get out? The answer is right inside this next volume of the super-popular *Fruits Basket*, the world's most popular shojo manga!



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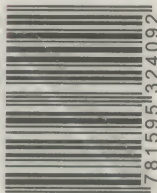
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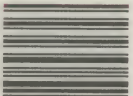


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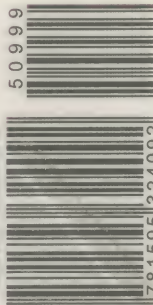
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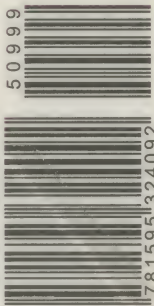
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# Fruits Basket™

Volume 14

*Sleeping  
together.*



Natsuki Takaya

# STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



# Fruits Basket™

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# Fruits Basket Characters

## Mabudachi Trio

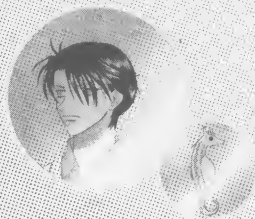


### Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.

### Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

Family doctor to the Sohmas. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.



### Ayame Sohma, the Snake

Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.



### Saki Hanajima

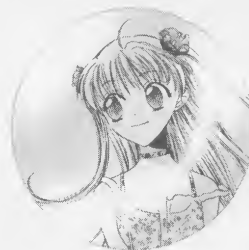
"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

### Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.



Tohru's Best Friends



### Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

### Yuki Sohma, the Rat

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues. At school he's called "Prince Yuki."

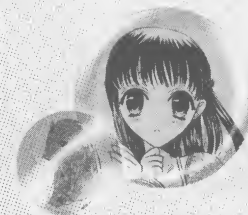


### Kyo Sohma, the Cat

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac. Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.

### Kagura Sohma, the Boar

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.



# Fruits Basket Characters

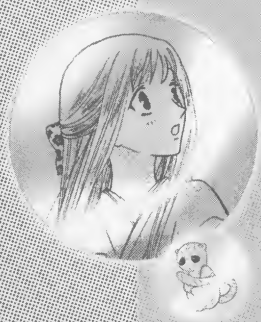
## Isuzu "Rin" Sohma, the Horse

She was once in a relationship with Hatsuharu (Haru)...and Tohru leaves her rather cold. Rin is full of pride, and she can't stand the amount of deference the other Sohma family members give Akito.



## Ritsu Sohma, the Monkey

This shy kimono-wearing member of the Sohma family is gorgeous. But this "she" is really a he!! Crossdressing calms his nerves.



## Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence.



## Hiro Sohma, the Ram (or sheep)

This caustic tyke is skilled at throwing verbal barbs, but he has a soft spot for Kisa.

## Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half-German. He's older than he looks. His mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse. His little sister, Momo, has been kept from him most of her life.



## Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out. He was once in a relationship with Rin.

## Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.





# Fruits Basket™

Chapter 72







HARU  
UNDERSTOOD  
ME.


HE CARED FOR ME.

HE LOVED ME.

THAT'S  
EXACTLY  
WHY...

THAT'S  
WHY...

Filler  
Sketch



He doesn't  
hate studying.

He won't show up much this volume.





DON'T RUN!!!

\*specially not on stairs!!

\*Wha'd I tell ya?

Oh!  
**YOU TOO, SATCHIAN! WELCOME BACK!**

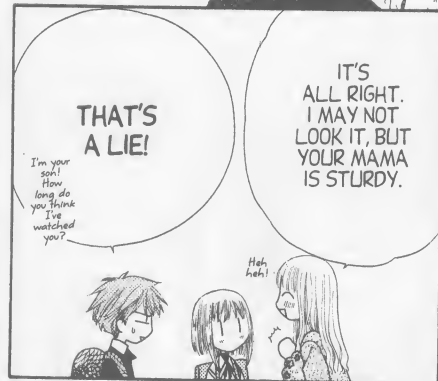
**HIRO-CHAAAAN!**

JUST RE-  
CENTLY, SHE  
CAME RE-  
ALLY CLOSE  
TO FALLING  
HEADFIRST...

IT'S NOT  
LIKE YOU DON'T  
KNOW THAT MY  
MOM'S REALLY  
CLUMSY, RIGHT  
KISA?

Huh?

Eek!



THAT'S A LIE!

I'm your son!  
How long do you think I've watched you?

IT'S ALL RIGHT.  
I MAY NOT  
LOOK IT, BUT  
YOUR MAMA  
IS STURDY.

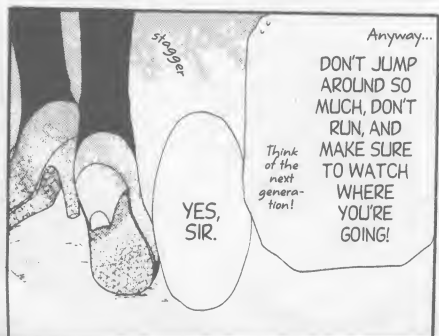
Heh heh!



We're home...

Yes!

Satchian, you're as cute as ever!



YES, SIR.

Think of the next generation!

Anyway...  
DON'T JUMP  
AROUND SO  
MUCH, DON'T  
RUN, AND  
MAKE SURE  
TO WATCH  
WHERE  
YOU'RE  
GOING!

YOU  
MEAN YOU  
CAN'T ACT A  
LITTLE MORE  
CAREFULLY  
EVEN THOUGH  
YOU HAVE A  
BABY?!

MOM!!  
HONESTLY,  
I'M BEGGING YOU--  
DON'T MAKE ME  
KEEP SAYING  
IT!



NOT YET...  
I GUESS.  
WON'T THAT  
START  
LATER?

...BELLY  
GOTTEN  
BIGGER?

HAS  
YOUR  
MOTHER'S...



EITHER  
WAY...I  
JUST HOPE  
IT'S BORN  
SAFELY.

I CAN'T  
WAIT!  
I WONDER  
IF IT'LL BE  
A BOY OR A  
GIRL?

WHY...?  
IS THE  
BABY...  
NOT  
WELL?

Huh...?



NAH,  
IT'S NOT  
THAT.

It's doing fine.



SAY...?

SAY...

...HIRO-  
CHAN?

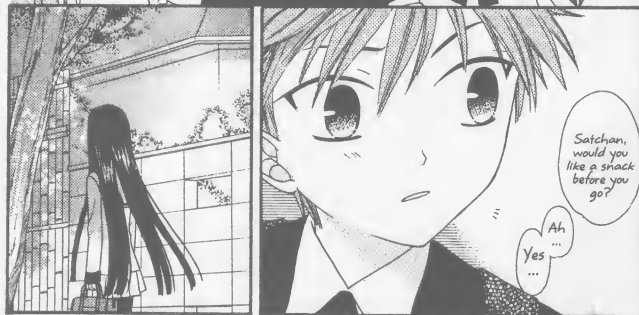
# Fruits Basket 14

Hajimemashite  
and konnichiwa!

Takaya here.  
Volume 14 ended  
up with Kureno-  
san on the cover  
after all. If you  
go in the actual  
order of revelation,  
it should be Akito,  
because he was  
the next Sohma  
to reveal his iden-  
tity when he said,  
"I'm God." (No,  
he didn't say  
it like that.)

But, you know...  
Since Yuki was  
on the cover of  
volume 2, it's  
always been  
members of the  
Zodiac, so I  
thought I should  
see it to the end.  
Thus, Kureno-san.  
He doesn't show  
up in this volume,  
though. He was  
told that he's no  
good (laugh). By  
Rin.

Anyway, here is  
volume 14. Please  
enjoy it!





WHAT  
DO YOU CARE?  
ARE YOU GOING  
TO WORRY ABOUT  
ME FOREVER?

IF YOU'RE  
WORRIED  
BECAUSE YOU  
HAPPENED TO  
SEE THAT...

...FORGET  
IT.

...MOMMY  
AND DADDY.

JUST  
GO BACK  
TO YOUR  
PEACEFUL  
LITTLE  
LIFE...

...WITH  
YOUR  
LOVING...



...  
BLAMING  
ME?

...YOU...

ARE...

!



RIN!

DID  
YOU GO  
TO SCHOOL  
TODAY?

HEY,  
RIN. LONG  
TIME NO  
SEE.



UM...

GO ON  
AHEAD!

HUH?

Hiro-  
chan?



YOU'RE  
SO PALE,  
YOU'RE LIKE  
A GHOST.

ARE  
YOU EATING  
RIGHT?

...



RIN...?

WHAT'S  
WRONG?



I  
HAVEN'T  
SEEN YOU  
IN A  
WHILE.

HOW  
HAVE YOU B--

turn

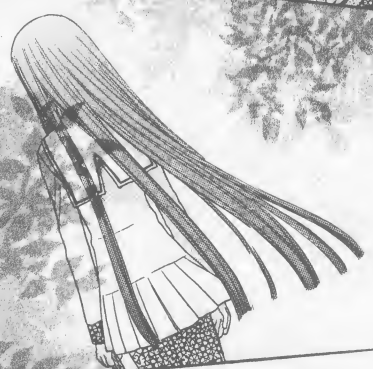




IT  
DOESN'T  
EXIST,  
AFTER  
ALL...

...DOES  
IT?

....



A  
WAY TO  
BREAK THE  
CURSE?



...ANSWER  
ME.

....



RIN...

YOU  
HAVEN'T  
FOUND IT AT  
ALL, HAVE  
YOU?

TRYING  
SO HARD...  
ON YOUR  
OWN.



...DOESN'T  
KNOW, DOES  
HE?

EVEN  
SHIGURE...



THE  
WAY YOU  
TALK, RIN...

...IT'S LIKE  
IT'S WRONG  
TO BE LOVED  
BY YOUR  
PARENTS.

LIKE  
PEACE IS  
SUPERFICIAL  
...

...AND  
A BAD  
THING.

I HAVE  
NOTHING  
BUT ME.

I'LL  
GIVE YOU  
MYSELF.

AND  
EVEN IF  
I DID...

...WHAT  
MAKES YOU  
THINK THAT I  
WOULD TELL  
YOU SOMETHING  
THAT WOULD  
CAUSE TROUBLE  
FOR AKITO-  
SAN?

DO YOU  
HAVE ANY...  
COLLAT-  
ERAL?

YOU  
CAN USE ME  
HOWEVER YOU  
LIKE FOR THE  
REST OF MY  
LIFE.

ALL  
THIS TO  
HELP  
HATSU-  
HARU.

YOU'RE  
AWFULLY  
DESPERATE,  
AREN'T  
YOU?

WHAT  
MAKES YOU  
THINK I  
KNOW?

BECAUSE  
YOU'VE  
BEEN  
NEAR  
AKITO.

AND  
TRUSTED  
BY HIM.

YOU'RE A  
"FAVORITE"  
OF HIS.

SO YOU  
THINK A  
"FAVORITE"  
LIKE ME  
WOULD KNOW  
ALL HIS  
SECRETS?

...A  
FAVOR-  
ITE?

A  
FAVORITE!  
HA HA!  
THAT'S  
GRAND!

TELL  
ME.

YOU  
KNOW,  
DON'T YOU,  
GURE-NII?

HOW  
TO BREAK  
OUR  
CURSE?



SOME-  
WHERE  
ELSE...

WHO  
ELSE  
WOULD  
KNOW?

WHO  
KNOWS?

MAYBE  
YOU  
SHOULD  
ASK "GOD"  
HIMSELF...  
AKITO.

IF YOU'RE  
DETERMINED  
TO FIND A  
WAY...

...YOU'LL  
HAVE TO LOOK  
SOMEWHERE  
ELSE.

GLURE-  
NII...

DO  
YOU NOT  
CARE IF  
YOU STAY  
CURSED?

I  
HAVE  
NO  
POWER...

...AND  
LITTLE  
MERIT.

I'M  
WORTH-  
LESS.

THE  
WORST KIND  
OF MAN.

BUT...

...I  
HONESTLY  
HAVE NO  
KNOWLEDGE...

I'M  
SORRY  
TO SAY...

...OF  
HOW TO  
BREAK THE  
CURSE.

NOW  
MIGHT BE  
A GOOD OP-  
PORTUNITY  
TO LET YOU  
KNOW...

I  
COULDN'T  
...

...LIVE UP  
TO YOUR EX-  
PECTATIONS,  
AFTER ALL.

YOU'RE  
LYING!

YOU'RE  
LYING. DON'T  
AVOID THE  
QUESTION!

I'M NOT  
LYING.

YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
MAKE TOO  
MUCH OF  
GUYS LIKE  
ME.

I WASN'T  
PARTICULARLY  
TRUSTED BY  
AKITO, NOR AM  
I WORTH ANY  
SPECIAL  
MENTION.





...GET THE  
FEELING  
HE KNOWS  
SOME-  
THING.

...I  
DEFI-  
NITELY  
...

THERE  
AREN'T  
ANY HIS-  
TORICAL  
RECORDS,  
EITHER.

MAYBE  
I HAVE TO LOOK  
DEEPER? MAYBE  
THE RIGHT DOCU-  
MENTS ARE IN A  
STOREHOUSE OR  
SOMETHING.

I'VE  
BEEN  
LOOKING  
ALL THIS  
TIME...

THAT  
HE'S HIDING  
SOME-  
THING.



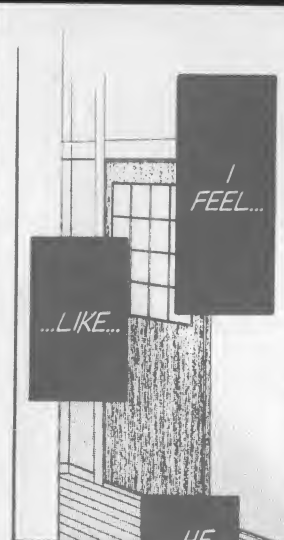
slide

crash

I  
FEEL...

...SICK.

I HAVE TO  
FIND IT.



I  
FEEL...

...LIKE...

...HE  
WAS  
TRYING  
TO  
EVADE  
ME.



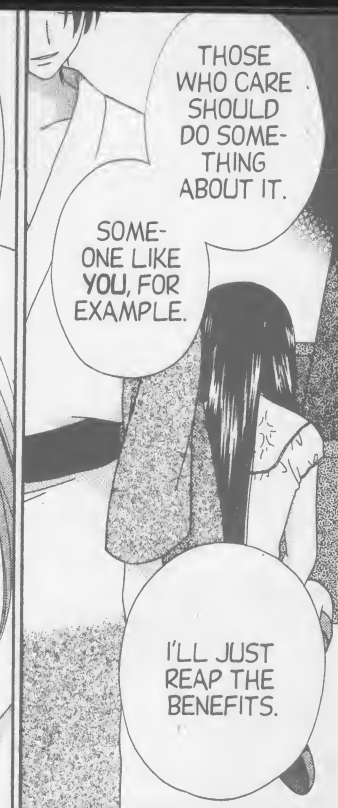
AFTER  
ALL...



I TOLD  
YOU,  
DIDN'T I?

I'M THE  
WORST  
OF THE  
WORST.

HE  
DODGED  
MY QUES-  
TION.



THOSE  
WHO CARE  
SHOULD  
DO SOME-  
THING  
ABOUT IT.

SOME-  
ONE LIKE  
YOU, FOR  
EXAMPLE.

I'LL JUST  
REAP THE  
BENEFITS.



BUT THEN,  
I COULDN'T  
EVEN KISS  
YOU.

HARU...

BUT...

...I...

HARU...

"SHUT  
UP!"

BECAUSE THEN I  
COULD ALWAYS  
BE WITH YOU.

IF YOU  
DIED,  
HARU...

...I WOULD  
DIE WITH  
YOU.

ANYTHING  
HE'D BE SO  
AFRAID OF  
HE COULDN'T  
STAND IT?

L...

L...

I WONDER  
IF THERE  
IS ANY-  
THING...

...THAT  
SOMEONE  
LIKE HIM...

...SOME-  
ONE WHO  
LIVES LIKE  
GLURE-NII  
IS AFRAID  
OF?

I WISH I  
HAD BEEN  
BORN AS  
HARU'S  
HEART.

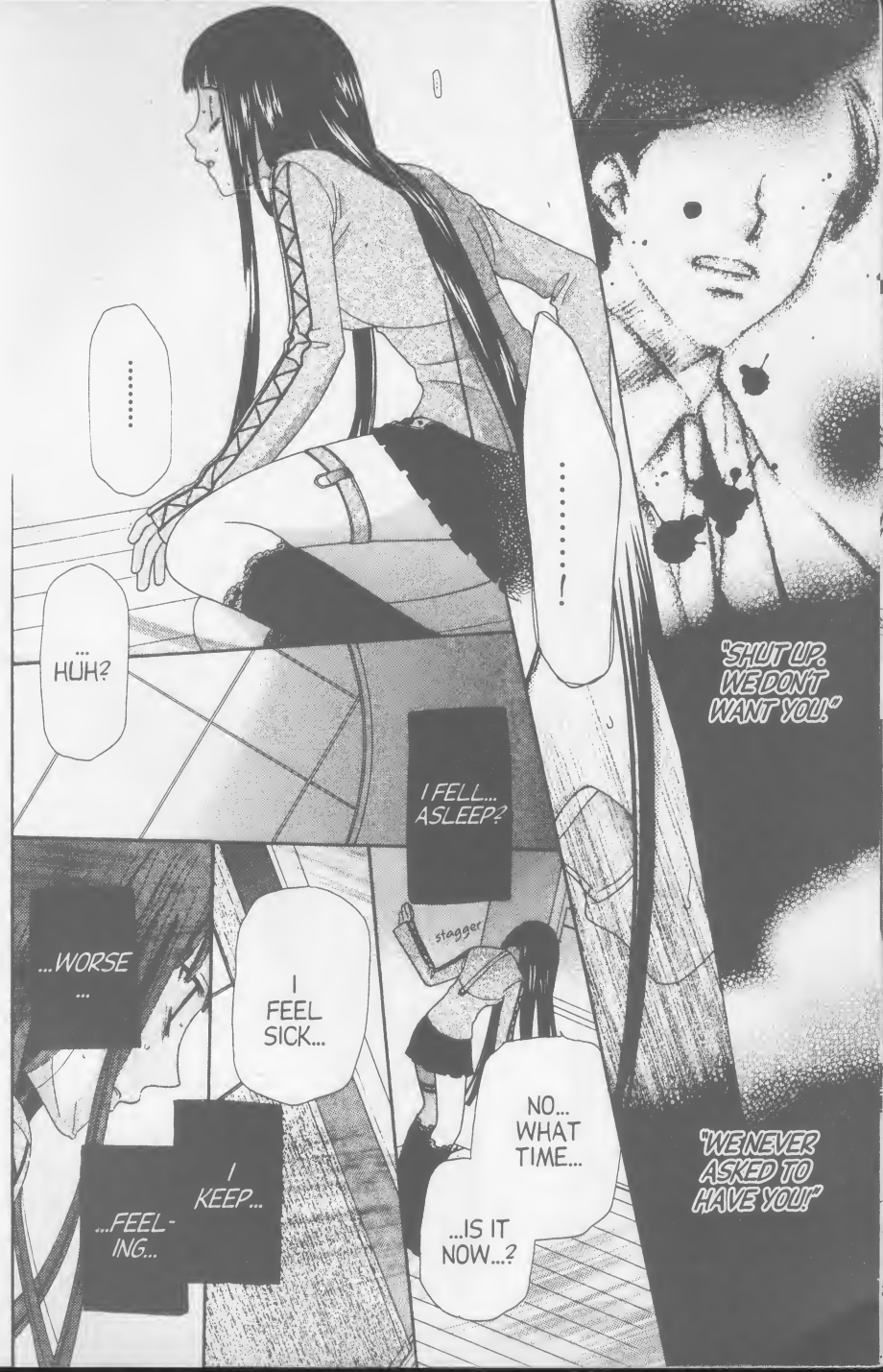
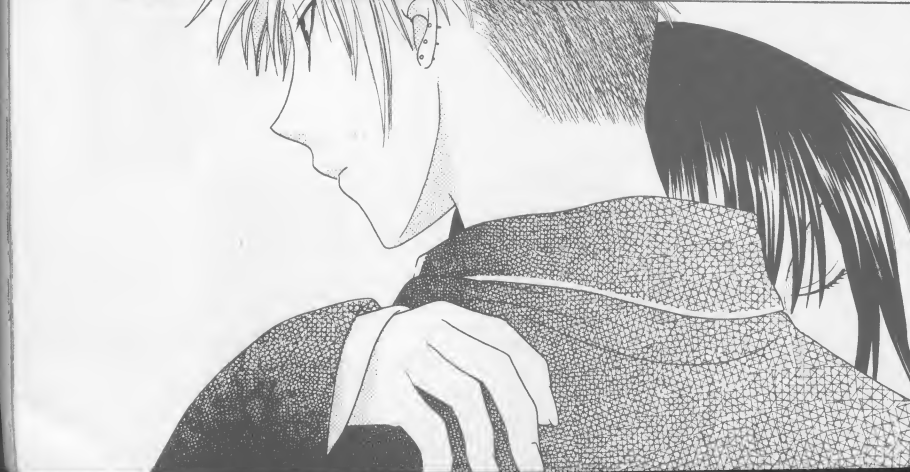
MAYBE

...I'LL GO  
SEE HIM  
AGAIN.

HOW-  
EVER  
MANY  
TIMES  
I GO...

...WILL  
HE JUST  
DODGE  
MY QUES-  
TIONS?

"MAYBE YOU  
SHOULD ASK  
'GOD' HIMSELF...  
AKITO."





!!  
UGH!!

UH...

I CAN'T  
THROW  
UP.

I CAN'T!  
I'LL...

I'LL  
END EVERY-  
THING.

GLURE-  
NII...

YOU'RE  
NOT  
HERE?

...GET IN  
TROUBLE  
AGAIN.

I HAVE  
TO WAKE  
UP.

...HAVING  
BAD  
DREAMS.

I'M  
ALWAYS...

I HAVE  
TO FIND  
IT.

I HAVE  
TO OPEN  
MY EYES.

I'LL  
FIND A  
WAY.

GLURE-  
NII ?  
....?

AND END  
THIS.

OH...

THIS  
SLUCKS.



THE OTHER  
MEMBERS OF THE  
ZODIAC SEEMED  
TO HAVE SO MUCH  
PAIN...

...BUT I'M  
DIFFERENT.

PAPA AND  
MAMA ARE  
DIFFERENT.

WE  
ALWAYS  
HAVE  
FUN.

WE'RE  
ALWAYS  
SMILING AND  
HAPPY.

YEAH...

ME TOO,  
PAPA, MAMA...

WE'RE A  
HAPPY  
FAMILY...

...ISUZU-  
CHAN.

YOUR  
FATHER  
...

...AND  
MOTHER  
...

...BOTH  
LOVE YOU,  
ISUZU-  
CHAN.

I LOVE  
YOU.

DON'T  
GET MAD  
AT ME,  
MAMA...

PAPA...

DON'T  
GET MAD  
AT ME!

A HAPPY...

...FAMILY.





WHO DO  
YOU THINK  
WE'RE DOING  
THIS FOR!?!  
...

WHO DO YOU  
THINK WE TRY  
SO HARD FOR  
EVERY SINGLE  
DAY?!  
...

GIVE ME A  
BREAK!!  
...

THE  
PLAY...

...CAME  
TO AN END.

WITH  
JUST  
THAT...

...ONE  
QUESTION  
...



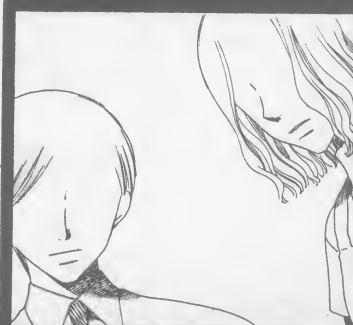
ARE YOU  
REALLY  
HAVING  
FUN?

WHY DO  
PAPA AND  
MAMA ALWAYS  
SEEM TO BE  
HAVING SO  
MUCH FUN?

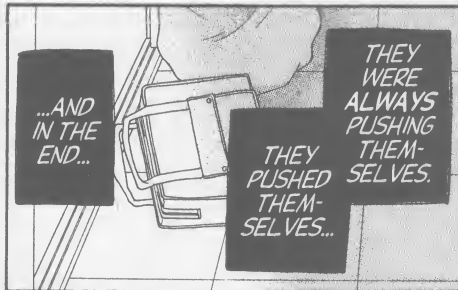
IT WAS  
JUST LIKE...

ISN'T  
THERE ANY-  
THING THAT  
MAKES YOU  
SAD?

...WE WERE  
INSIDE A  
PLAY.

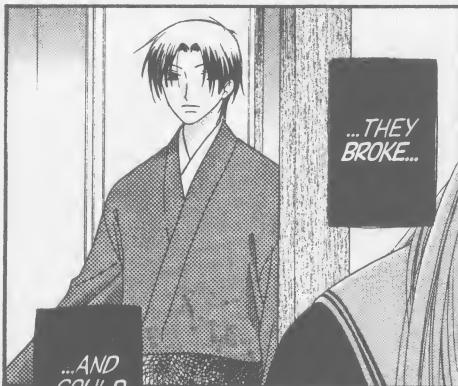


WHY?



...AND  
IN THE  
END...

THEY  
WERE  
ALWAYS  
PUSHING  
THEM-  
SELVES.  
THEY  
PUSHED  
THEM-  
SELVES...



...THEY  
BROKE...

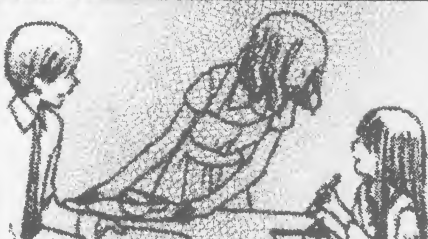
...AND  
COULD  
NEVER...



EVEN  
THOUGH  
...

...I  
WAS A  
BURDEN  
...

...THEY  
PUSHED  
THEM-  
SELVES.



...GO  
BACK.



...THEY  
DIDN'T  
REALLY  
WANT ME.

THEY  
SAID...



EVEN  
THOUGH  
...

...THEY  
HATED  
ME...



MAMA  
...

MAMA,  
PAPA...

I'M  
SORRY...

I'M  
SORRY...

THAT  
FEELING

...

...OF  
PRAYING  
WITH  
ALL MY  
HEART.



I'LL  
NEVER  
FORGET  
THAT  
FEELING,  
EVERY  
TIME I  
ENTERED  
MY  
HOUSE...



HARU...

I'M SCARED.

I'M SO  
SCARED...

...I CAN'T  
TAKE IT!



...I'M SCARED.

## Chapter 79



...TO THE  
WAY THINGS  
WERE, CAN'T  
WE?

UH...!

UGH...

YOU  
WILL...

ド  
#  
Collapse...

...FOR-  
GIVE ME,  
WON'T  
YOU?

WE  
CAN GO  
BACK  
...

stagger

UNTIL  
THE DAY,  
SOMEDAY...

...WHEN  
THEY'LL  
...

LIKE A  
"THING"  
WITHOUT  
FEELINGS.

...OR IF  
THEY  
STILL  
HATED  
ME.

I TOLD  
MYSELF I'D  
WAIT UNTIL  
IT PASSES.

LIKE A  
STONE.

...FORGIVE  
ME.

OF WON-  
DERING  
IF THEY  
WERE IN  
A GOOD  
MOOD...

HIS WHITE,  
SOFT HAIR--

WHEN I  
TOLD HIM I  
LIKED IT...

BEFORE  
THIS HAP-  
PENED...

...THERE  
WERE A  
FEW TIMES  
WE PLAYED  
TOGETHER.

...HIS BLANK  
EXPRESSION  
WAS SO  
CUTE.

ALTHOUGH  
SHE LOOKS  
FINE ON THE  
OUTSIDE...

IF ONLY THE  
PEOPLE AROUND  
HER HAD NOTICED  
IT SOONER. SURELY  
SHE'S BEEN SHOW-  
ING SYMPTOMS  
FOR SOME TIME  
NOW.

...INSIDE,  
HER  
BODY'S  
A MESS.

HM...

THAT'S  
GOOD.

YOU'RE  
CONSCIOUS.

IT'S  
HARU!

I FEEL  
LIKE...

...I HAVEN'T  
SEEN HIS  
FACE IN  
A LONG  
TIME.

SHIHAN  
...

SHIHAN.

HARU  
...?

WAIT  
RIGHT  
HERE.



YOU  
MUST  
REST.

ISUZU...

I HAVE  
ALREADY  
CONTACTED  
YOUR  
PARENTS.

I MUST  
TALK TO THEM  
ABOUT WHAT'S  
HAPPENED.



IT'S  
BECAUSE  
I'M BAD...

WH--

IT'S  
MY  
FAULT!

I HAVE  
TO GO  
HOME....!!

...  
BEFORE.

STOP  
IT!

LEAVE  
US  
ALONE!!

WHY  
...

STOP IT!  
WHY!?!



HELLO...  
ISUZU.

HOW ARE  
YOU FEEL-  
ING?

FOR NOW,  
I THINK IT'S  
BEST THAT  
SHE STAY  
AT THE  
HOSPITAL.

IN THE  
CASE THAT  
WE DON'T  
SEE ANY  
IMPROVE-  
MENT-

I WILL  
TALK IT OVER  
WITH HER  
PARENTS.

WE'RE  
IN THE  
HOSPITAL.

...I HAVE  
TO GO  
HOME.

I  
HAVE  
TO...

...GO  
BACK  
HOME!

DO YOU  
REMEMBER?  
YOU FAINTED  
AND HATSU-  
HARU FOUND  
YOU.

KAZUMA  
SOHMA. YOU  
MIGHT KNOW ME  
BETTER AS KYO  
SOHMA'S FOSTER  
FATHER.

...WHO  
ARE  
YOU?



HOW  
CAN SHE SAY  
THINGS LIKE  
THAT...

...SO  
EASILY?

"WE  
DON'T  
NEED  
YOU."

MS.  
SOHMA  
...

LET'S  
TALK  
OVER  
HERE...

"IT'S  
FINE"

"YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE TO  
COME  
HOME."

IF WE  
HEAR  
THAT...

...FROM  
OUR PARENTS,  
WHAT ARE WE  
SUPPOSED  
TO DO?

WHY...?

"YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE  
TO  
COME  
HOME."

IT'S FINE.  
GO SOME-  
WHERE...

...WHERE  
I WON'T  
SEE YOU  
ANYMORE.

I JUST  
DON'T  
KNOW ANY-  
MORE.

BE-  
CAUSE  
...

I DON'T  
KNOW HOW  
TO LOVE YOU  
ANYMORE.

...THINGS  
ARE  
BEYOND  
REPAIR.

IT'S  
FINE.

YOU  
DON'T HAVE  
TO COME  
HOME ANY-  
MORE.



HARU  
...

HARU  
...



HEY!!

I TOLD  
YOU TO  
APOLO-  
GIZE!!



...YOU...

THANK  
...



HAVING  
PEOPLE  
TAKE THEIR  
ANGER OUT  
ON US, BEING  
LAUGHED  
AT...

...NOT BEING  
TAKEN  
SERIOUSLY.

WE  
KIDS GET  
HURT JUST  
LIKE YOU  
DO!

HARU  
...

WHY  
CAN'T YOU  
UNDERSTAND  
SOMETHING  
SO SIMPLE?!



HARU  
...

APOLO-  
GIZE!

APOLO-  
GIZE...!

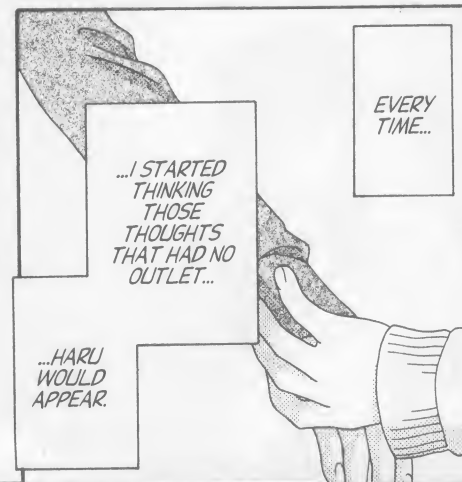
APOLOGIZE  
TO RIN!!



RIN  
THINKS THAT  
SHE'S BEEN  
"BAD."

BUT  
WHO DO  
YOU THINK  
...

...IS THE ONE  
WHO'S BEING  
BAD HERE!?!  
  
...



EVERY TIME...

...HARU WOULD APPEAR.

SHOULD I NEVER HAVE BEEN BORN?

nok  
nok



...THE ANGER, HATRED, AND SADNESS I HAD TOWARD MY PARENTS AND MYSELF...

...WELLED UP INSIDE ME.

WHAT WAS BAD?

WHERE DID IT GO WRONG?

WERE THINGS...

...BEYOND REPAIR FROM THE BEGINNING?



IT WAS DECIDED THAT I WOULD STAY AT KAGURA'S HOUSE.

BUT GOING INTO A HOME THAT WASN'T COMPLETELY BROKEN...

...ONLY WRENCHED AT MY HEART.

I COULDN'T SIT AT MEALS WITH THEM.

BEING IN THE HOUSE WAS AGONY; BEING OUTSIDE WAS AGONY.

WHEN I CLOSED MYSELF IN MY ROOM...

JUST LIKE THAT...

...MY HOME...

...WAS GONE.

MY PARENTS ...

...NEVER CAME TO SEE ME AT THE HOSPITAL AFTER THAT.

AND LIKEWISE, I NEVER WENT BACK TO MY PARENTS AGAIN.







YOU HAVE INTERESTING LOGIC, HARU.

HARU WAS A STRANGE BOY.

A KIND BOY.

I FELT LIKE I MIGHT FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM.

MAYBE.



HOW IS MIDDLE SCHOOL? IS IT FUN?

IT'S KIND OF... ANNOYING.

APPARENTLY THEY DON'T LIKE MY HAIR OR MY ATTITUDE.



SO I THINK IN THIS CASE...

...I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GET MY EARS PIERCED.

EEHH?



HEH HEH... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



Is it hot?

It's hot.

WE ATE TOGETHER.



HE WOULD TAKE ME OUTSIDE...

...AND TALK ABOUT RANDOM THINGS.

WANT TO TRY SOME ODEN\*?

I'LL TRY SOME...

\*Oden = Japanese Stew



YES, AND WHEN I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL ...

...HARU CAME TO SEE ME ALL THE TIME.

WHEN I WAS WITH HARU, I DIDN'T FEEL ANY AGONY.

I DIDN'T HATE ANY OF THAT.



WE  
...

AKITO  
WILL...

...GET  
MAD...

WE  
CAN'T  
...

A--

...LIKE  
YOU.

OR...  
WOULD  
YOU PREFER  
ANOTHER  
MAN?

BUT...

OF...

HARU,  
I...

OF  
COURSE  
NOT! I--

...IF YOU  
ENDED UP WITH  
ANOTHER GUY  
JUST BECAUSE  
OF THAT...

...I WOULDN'T  
BE ABLE TO  
BEAR IT.

...WOULD BE  
TWISTED.

RIN.

WILL  
YOU KISS  
ME?

WH--  
WHY...?

BECAUSE  
I LIKE  
YOU.

I HAVE  
FALLEN IN  
LOVE WITH  
HIM.

NO.

I  
CAN'T.

A LOVE  
FROM...

...SOMEONE  
LIKE  
ME...





DO YOU  
THINK I'M  
PITYING  
YOU?

NO...

NO, I  
DON'T.

I  
LIKE  
YOU.

SO  
I...

...WANT  
YOU,  
RIN.



DO  
YOU NOT  
WANT TO BE  
WITH ME?

DO  
YOU...

...NOT  
WANT ME,  
RIN?



...

.....



...SEEMED  
LIKE IT  
WOULD  
SOMEDAY  
CRUSH  
HARU.

LEANING  
ON YOU...

RELYING  
ON YOU...

WANTING  
YOU, HARU,  
WANTING  
EVERYTHING  
ABOUT YOU.

I'M  
NO GOOD  
WITHOUT  
YOU, HARU.

MY DESIRE  
INCREASES  
AND  
INCREASES.

WHEN  
YOU'RE GONE,  
HARU, I'M SO  
UNEASY. I  
CAN'T KEEP  
MYSELF  
TOGETHER.

IT  
HAS TO  
BE YOU,  
HARU.

A "LOVE"  
LIKE THAT  
...

IF  
HARU...

...STARTED  
TO HATE  
ME...

...AND WENT  
AWAY...

...AND  
WAS  
GONE...



IS IT  
TRUE...

...YOU AND  
HATSU HARU  
ARE SEE-  
ING EACH  
OTHER?



LOOK  
AT YOU,  
SO UNCON-  
CERNED.

WHEN  
YOU DO  
SOME-  
THING, YOU  
REALLY  
DO IT.

HOW  
DREAD-  
FUL.

WHEN I  
THOUGHT,  
"WHAT  
IF AKITO  
FINDS  
OUT?" ...

...I GOT  
MORE  
AND  
MORE...

...TERRIFIED.

...IS IT  
TRUE?

WHY  
CAN'T WE  
BE MORE  
NORMAL?

EVEN  
THOUGH I  
THINK IT'S  
WRONG...

...I DON'T  
WANT TO  
LET GO.

HOLD-  
ING  
HANDS  
...

...HAVING  
HIS  
BODY  
ON  
MINE...

...I  
STARTED  
TO WANT  
HIM.

I  
STARTED  
TO GET  
SCARED.

MY  
TWISTED...

...SELF.

REASON  
HAS NO  
EFFECT.

I LOVE  
HIM TOO  
MUCH.





WHICH  
OF YOU WILL  
INCUR MY  
DISPLEASURE?

WHICH  
OF YOU  
INSTIGATED  
IT?

HATSU-  
HARU?

YOU?



HATORI'S  
LEFT EYE-  
THAT WAS...  
UNFORTUNATE.

YOU SEE,  
WHEN I GET  
MAD, I CAN'T  
REALLY  
SEE WHAT'S  
AROUND ME.

EH...?



I  
STARTED IT,  
OBVIOUSLY!

ME...

IT  
WAS  
ME!



OR...

...DID  
SOME-  
ONE...?

HOW...?

THIS  
IS WHY  
I HATE  
WOMEN.

DID  
HE SEE  
SOME-  
THING?

HOW  
DID HE  
FIND  
OUT?!

THEY'RE  
CUNNING.

EVEN  
LONG, BLACK  
TRAILING  
HAIR...



I SHRINK  
BACK.

I'M  
SCARED  
OF AKITO.

...MAKES  
ME  
SICK.


I CAN'T  
HELP  
IT.

HIS  
SPEECH,  
HIS  
ACTIONS...  
EVERY-  
THING.

I  
CAN'T  
DISOBEY.

SO...?





AH HA HA!  
OH, I SEE!

I  
SEE YOU,  
NOW...!

HEH HEH...  
YOU'RE  
PATHETIC.  
AH  
HA  
HA  
HA!

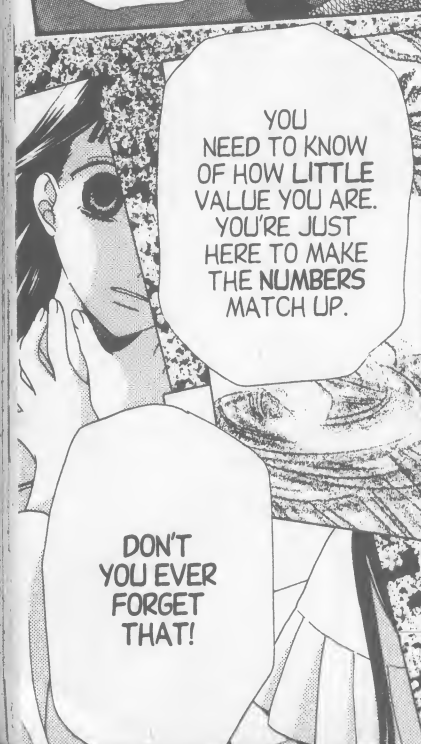


...ARE  
YOU  
LISTEN-  
ING?




OH...

AH?



YOU  
NEED TO KNOW  
OF HOW LITTLE  
VALUE YOU ARE.  
YOU'RE JUST  
HERE TO MAKE  
THE NUMBERS  
MATCH UP.



YOU... YOU'RE  
ROTTEN TO  
THE CORE.

YOU'RE  
COMPLETELY  
HOPELESS. NOT  
EVEN BEING WITH  
HATSU HARU CAN  
SAVE YOU.

DON'T  
YOU EVER  
FORGET  
THAT!

YOUR  
DARKNESS  
WILL EAT  
THROUGH  
HATSU HARU.



WOMEN  
REALLY ARE  
DISGUSTING.

YOU'RE...  
SHAMELESS.



WHY  
DO YOU  
LAY YOUR  
HANDS ON MY  
THINGS?

YOU  
THINK  
YOU'VE  
BEATEN  
ME?

OR  
MAYBE...





I'M  
HAPPY...

WHAT...

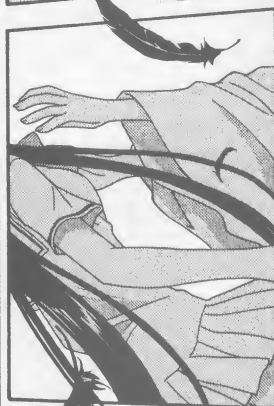
...A  
HAPPY  
THING.

THERE  
WAS  
SOME-  
ONE...

...WHO  
WANTED  
ME...

...EVEN  
THOUGH  
I HAD  
BEEN  
TOLD...

...THAT  
I WAS  
UNWANTED.



BUT  
HARU...

...DID...

...WANT  
ME.



YOU...

...ARE NOT  
NEEDED.

"WE  
DON'T  
NEED  
YOU."

SEE,  
IT'S IN...

...A  
BIGGER  
WORLD.

I WANT  
TO RELEASE  
YOU.

FROM  
EVERY-  
THING  
THAT  
BINDS  
YOU.

I'LL  
LOOK  
FOR IT.

I'LL  
FIND  
IT.

...TRUE  
HAPPINESS...

...HARU,  
YOUR...

BECAUSE  
IT'S OKAY...

THAT'S  
ENOUGH  
FOR ME.

HARU...

...WAS  
HAPPY.

I'LL  
RELEASE  
YOU...

...FROM  
ME.

THIS  
TIME...

THANK  
YOU!

I'M  
HAPPY.

FROM  
AKITO.

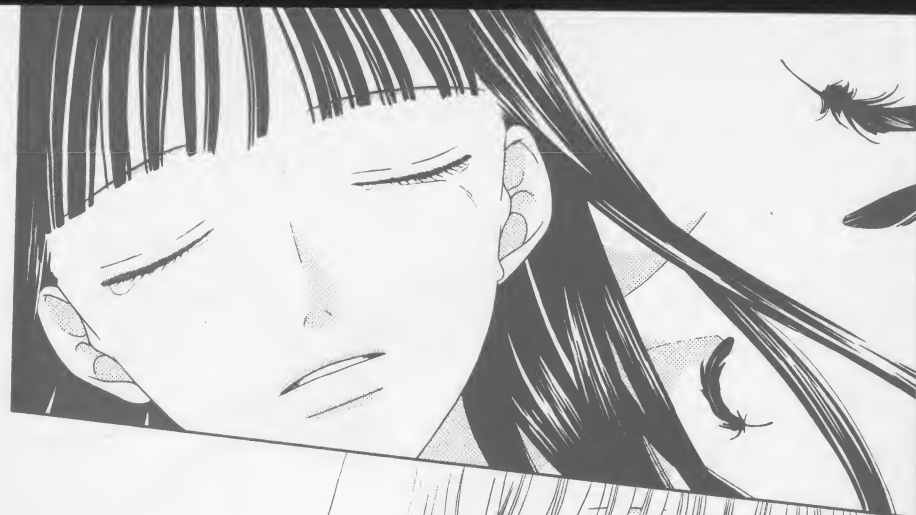
...YOU  
HAVE  
TO BE  
HAPPY,  
HARU.

BUT...

...THAT'S  
ENOUGH.



## Chapter 80



...FOR IT  
TO END  
WITH  
NOTHING  
...



...LEFT  
IN MY  
HANDS.





ISUZU...  
SAN?

...  
?!  
...

Ah...!

PLEASE  
WAIT,  
PLEASE...

PLEASE  
KEEP  
LYING  
DOWN!

WHY...

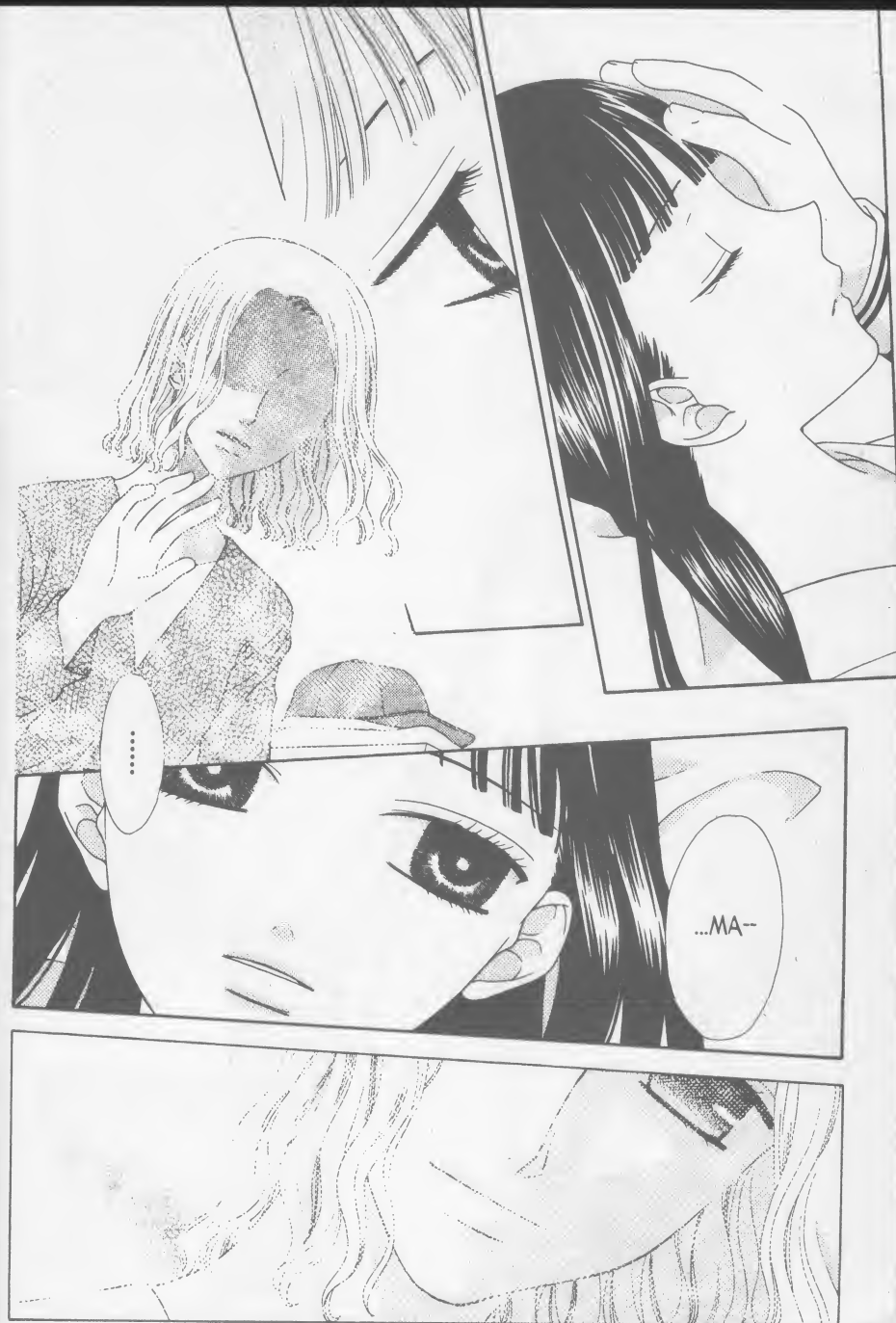
I'M GOING  
TO LET  
HATORI-SAN  
KNOW!

HOW  
ARE YOU  
FEELING  
...?

ARE  
YOU...  
AWAKE?

...THIS  
GIRL?

He's  
in the  
living  
room.



...MA--



Now then.

Now that all the members of the Zodiac have been revealed, I can finally tell you that all of their names were taken from names of the months. I think there are some people who have already realized this, though.

The reason I kept quiet about it until now is that if I said it, it would be a huge spoiler in that you would be able to figure out which Zodiac each character was by their name. (Figure that out before you name them!)

There's no real meaning behind my naming them after the months. Not really. I was just playing with sounds.

(Currently, in Japan, the months are known as "First month," "Second month," etc. But they all have many, many other names, some of which will be listed later. They're based on the lunar calendar, so they don't necessarily match up with the months of the Western calendar. In addition to there being "the month of the Rat," "the month of the Ox," etc., the hours of the day were designated in the same way. -ed.)





RIN.

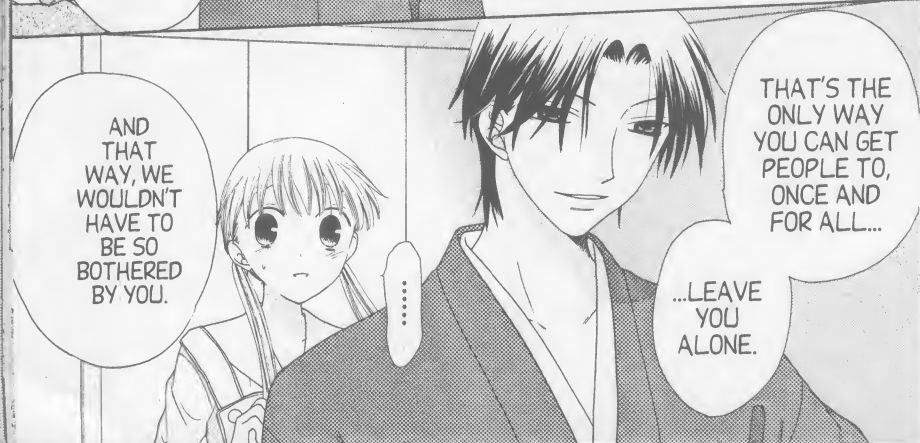
YOU...!

YOU  
MUSTN'T,  
ISUZU-SAN!

IT'S  
DANGEROUS  
...

WHY  
DON'T YOU AT  
LEAST LET  
THEM GET  
YOU TO THE  
POINT...

...WHERE  
YOU CAN  
TAKE CARE  
OF YOUR OWN  
BODY?



AND  
THAT  
WAY, WE  
WOULDN'T  
HAVE TO  
BE SO  
BOtherED  
BY YOU.

THAT'S THE  
ONLY WAY  
YOU CAN GET  
PEOPLE TO,  
ONCE AND  
FOR ALL...

...LEAVE  
YOU  
ALONE.



NO!

NO,  
LET  
GO!

LEAVE  
ME  
ALONE!

ISUZU-  
SAN!

NO...I  
WON'T  
GO.

ISU--

NO! I HATE  
HOSPITALS!

NO.

ISUZU--!



"DON'T  
GET  
MAD."

...IN SO  
MUCH  
PAIN...

I WONDER  
WHAT SHE  
CAME HERE  
TO DO...?

SHE  
SEEMED  
TO BE...

AH! R-R-  
REALLY?!  
I-I'M SORRY,  
I SHOULDN'T  
HAVE PRIED!

NAH, I'M  
JUST PULL-  
ING YOUR  
LEG. SORRY,  
SORRY.

Eh  
...?!  
...

HMM...  
THE  
TRUTH IS...

...Rin and  
I are going  
out.

PAY  
ATTENTION  
TO THE CIRCUM-  
STANCES BE-  
FORE YOU MAKE  
SUCH FLIPPANT  
COMMENTS.



I'LL COME  
AGAIN  
...

...TO-  
MOR-  
ROW.

IF WE  
MAKE A BIG  
DEAL OF IT,  
SHE MIGHT  
REALLY  
JUMP.

YOU'RE  
RIGHT. FOR  
NOW, IT MIGHT  
ACTUALLY BE  
WORSE TO FORCE  
HER TO THE  
HOSPITAL.

BUT  
AS LONG AS  
SHE'S GOT THIS  
MUCH SPUNK LEFT  
IN HER, SHE'LL  
PROBABLY BE  
ALL RIGHT.



AT  
THIS  
RATE...

...AM I  
DOING?

...THE  
END  
WILL  
NEVER  
COME.

FAINTING...  
FALLING  
APART...

...WITH-  
OUT  
EVEN  
FINDING  
THE  
WAY TO  
BREAK  
THE  
CURSE.

ISUZU-  
SAN...





MOST LIKELY.

SHE'S SERIOUS?

AND SHE SUSPECTS THAT I KNOW HOW TO DO IT.

SO SHE COMES OVER FROM TIME TO TIME.

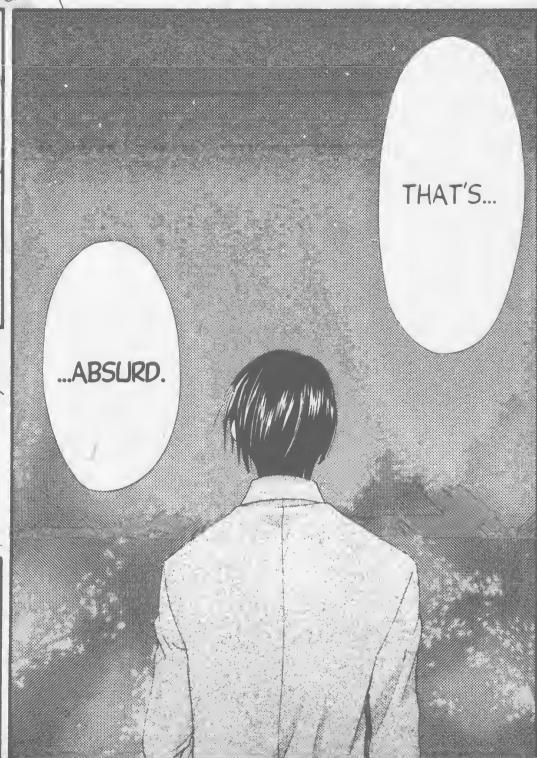


YES, WELL ...

YOU SAY IT'S ABSURD ...

...BUT...

...IS IT REALLY?



THAT'S...

...ABSURD.



WON'T HE GET MAD AT YOU FOR LEAVING WITHOUT PERMISSION?

WE CALLED YOU OUT HERE... BUT IS AKITO-SAN ALL RIGHT WITH THAT?

...I STILL HAVE A FEW EXCUSES LEFT.



SHE CAME TO SEE YOU, DIDN'T SHE? ISUZU, I MEAN.

YOU...

IT'S HARD KEEPING HIM IN A GOOD MOOD, ISN'T IT?



...BY HERSELF.

...LOOKING FOR A WAY TO UNDO OUR CURSE...

FOR SOME REASON, THAT GIRL IS DESPERATELY ...

...THAT'S RIGHT.



YES...

I'LL WALK YOU OUT.

AH... YES! TAKE CARE...!

...ANYWAY, THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN DO TODAY.





RIN...

AREN'T YOU GOING TO EAT?



HE TOLD ME HE'D TAKE CARE OF IT ON HIS OWN.

BUT...

...I THINK YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS--



IF YOU... CALL HARU...

...I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.



"THE SOUND OF BREAKING."



Rin? How come?

"CAN'T YOU HEAR IT?"



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



HATORI ...

CAN'T YOU HEAR IT?



HEAR WHAT?



NO, NO. RIN'S JUST STAYING HERE FOR A BIT.

WHY IS HATORI HERE? IS SOMEONE SICK?

OH, KYO-KUN!

WELCOME HOME!

SO  
KIND.

TOO  
KIND.

KIND  
PEOPLE--

I FEEL  
SORRY  
FOR  
THEM.



"SHE'S  
KIND."

YOU  
ARE TOO,  
HARU.

YOU'RE  
KIND.



"...IT'S  
BECAUSE  
OF HER..."

"...THAT YUKI  
AND KYO'S  
AURAS HAVE  
SOFTENED."



"IS SHE  
REALLY  
THAT  
SPECIAL?"



"IF YOU  
MEET HER,  
YOU MIGHT  
UNDERSTAND  
TOO, RIN."

"SHE'S A  
NORMAL  
GIRL."



...VERY  
MUCH.

IN  
SPITE OF  
EVERY-  
THING...

...HARU  
STILL  
LIKES YOU,  
RIN.

HE  
LIKES  
YOU...

"I  
THINK..."

10  
09  
-



HOW  
ARE YOU  
FEELING?



HELLO!

I'M  
COMING  
IN.

clatch



STOP  
IT.



UM...  
I'LL BE  
SLEEPING  
DOWN-  
STAIRS...

AH,  
ALSO, I  
BROUGHT  
YOU SOME  
WATER!

...SO IF  
YOU NEED  
ANYTHING, DON'T  
HESITATE TO  
CALL ME.



...THAT  
GIRL WAS  
THERE.

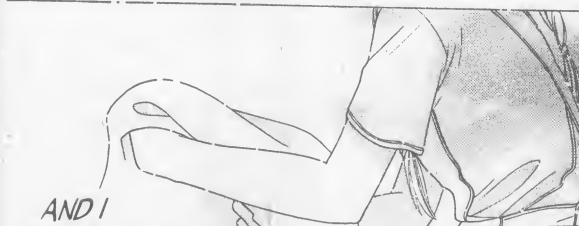
...THE  
FIRST TIME  
I WENT TO  
GLURE-NII'S  
HOUSE...



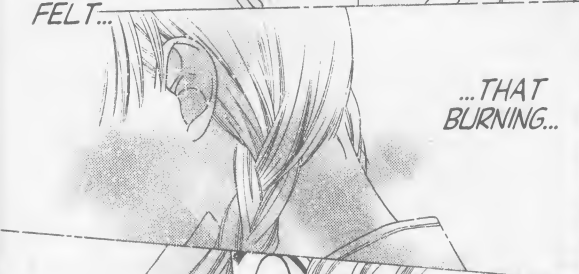
BUT  
AFTER  
I BROKE  
UP WITH  
HARU...

THAT'S  
WHY...

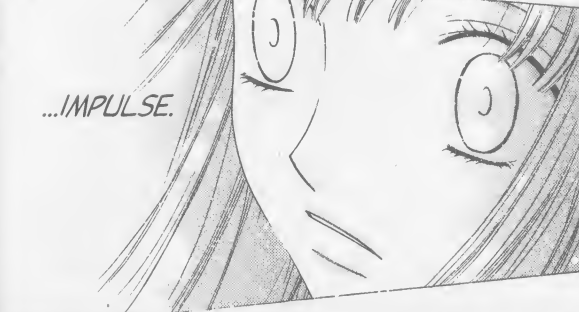
...I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
MEET HER.



AND I  
FELT...



...THAT  
BURNING...

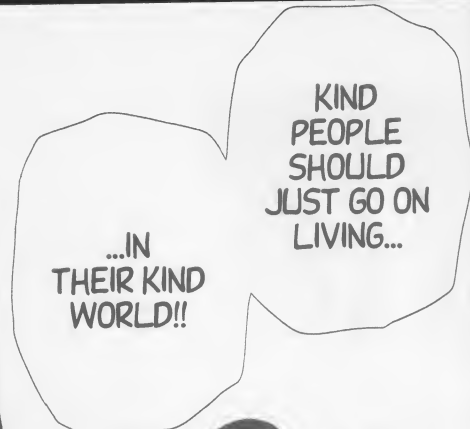
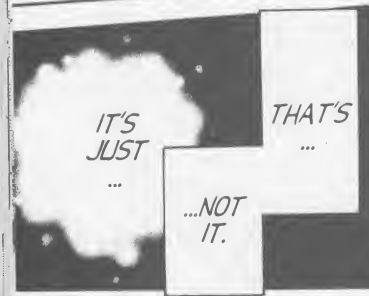


...IMPULSE.



THAT  
GIRL.









I'M SORRY,  
BUT NO! I  
WON'T STAY  
OUT OF IT!!



THAT'S  
WHY.

SHUT  
UP,  
SHUT  
UP!

SHUT  
UP!  
THERE  
ISN'T  
ONE!!

THERE  
ARE THINGS...  
I CAN'T GIVE  
UP.

SHUT  
UP...!

JUST AS  
YOU HAVE  
THINGS YOU  
CAN'T GIVE  
UP, ISUZU-  
SAN...

...SO  
DO I.

STOP  
SCREWING  
AROUND!

NO...!

STOP  
...



THAT'S...

...NONE OF  
YOUR BUSI-  
NESS!



ISUZU-  
SAN...!



STAY  
OUT OF IT.  
STOP INTER-  
RUPTING!

NO!!

ISUZU-  
SA--

SHUT UP!  
I TOLD YOU  
WE DON'T  
NEED YOUR  
HELP!

ISUZU-SAN,  
DO YOU  
KNOW A WAY  
TO UNDO THE  
CURSE?!

SHUT  
UP!

...ISUZU-  
SAN?

...BREAK  
THE  
CURSE,  
TOO...

...THAT  
YOU'RE  
TRYING  
TO...



ISUZU-SAN...!

THIS GIRL...

...IS THAT KIND OF PERSON.

THE KIND OF PERSON WHO MAKES ME FEEL THIS WAY.

BACK THEN, TOO.

...I DIDN'T WANT TO GET NEAR HER.

I HATE IT! THAT'S WHY...



NO ONE KNOWS HOW.

AT THIS RATE...!

...I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO RELEASE HIM.

THERE ISN'T ONE ANYWHERE!

THERE ISN'T A WAY!

I DON'T KNOW...

...WHAT TO DO ANYMORE.



...AND  
TAKEN  
ADVANTAGE  
OF.

KIND  
PEOPLE  
ARE  
CLINGING  
TO.

THEY'RE  
SOLIGHT  
OUT...



I FEEL  
SORRY  
FOR HER.

LIKE  
SHE WOULD  
ACCEPT ME.



BY  
PEOPLE  
LIKE ME.



THAT'S  
WHY I  
WON'T  
GET THEM  
INVOLVED.

I CAN  
DO IT ON  
MY OWN.



I WILL  
KEEP  
RUNNING  
ON MY  
OWN.

IT'S TOO  
MUCH.

SUCH A  
PERSON  
...



I WANT  
TO SHARE  
WITH HER  
ALL OF THE  
WEAKNESS  
IN MY OVERLY  
WEAK SELF.

AND I  
FEEL...

...LIKE SHE  
WOULD  
LET ME.



I WANTED  
TO RUN TO  
HER...

...AND  
FALL ON  
HER LAP.

TO POUR  
OUT MY  
HEART TO  
HER...

I WANTED...

...TO CRY.



...LIKE A  
CHILD WHO  
GOES BACK,  
CRYING, TO HER  
MOTHER.





I'M  
GOING  
TO CLING  
TO YOU.



I'M SO  
POWERLESS  
ON MY OWN.

I'M  
SO WEAK.


I'M  
SORRY.

...TO DO  
ANYMORE!

...DON'T  
KNOW...

...WHAT...

I...



...THAT I  
WOULDN'T  
CRY, BUT...

I DON'T  
HAVE TO  
BE UNDER-  
STOOD.

I DON'T  
CARE IF  
PEOPLE  
HATE ME.

IF I'M  
ALONE.



I'M  
SORRY.



I PROMISED  
MYSELF...



I CAN'T  
STAND UP...

...ON  
MY OWN...

BY MY OWN  
POWER.

SHE  
SHOULD  
HAVE  
JUST...

WHAT'S IMPOR-  
TANT IS  
...

OR...

...WILL YOU  
ALWAYS GO  
CRYING TO  
HER?

...GIVEN IN  
AND CRIED  
TO HER  
LONG AGO.

BEING  
BY  
YOUR-  
SELF...

...IS  
SCARY.

BEING  
ALONE...

...IS A  
FRIGHTENING  
WAY TO  
LIVE.

I JUST  
DON'T  
KNOW.

I  
CAN'T DO  
ANYTHING  
...

...ON MY  
OWN.

BY  
MYSELF.

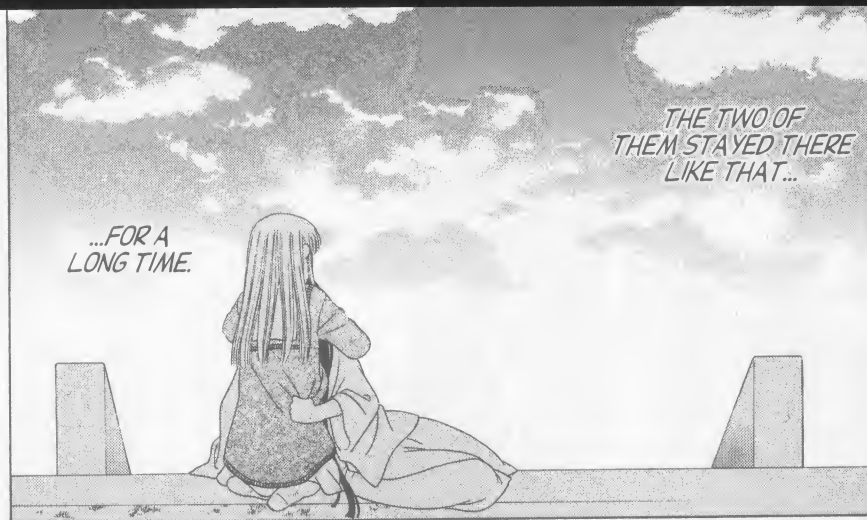
Filler  
Sketch





Chapter 81





...FOR A  
LONG TIME.

THE TWO OF  
THEM STAYED THERE  
LIKE THAT...



SHE WAS  
SCOWLING  
AS IF EM-  
BARRASSED  
THOUGH...



IN THE  
MORNING  
HATORI  
CAME FOR  
HER...

THIS TIME  
SHE WENT  
WITHOUT  
ARGUING.

...AND  
SHE WAS  
TAKEN TO THE  
HOSPITAL.



I REALIZED  
THAT...

...WE HAVE  
SOMETHING IN  
COMMON.

I feel so  
grateful!

Harada-sama, Araki-sama,  
Mom, Dad, and everyone  
who reads and supports  
this manga... Thank you so  
much for your support!

The honorable head of the family is next.

-Natsuki Takaya



I apologize  
for making so  
many unsociable  
characters!





By the way, Shigure is the one who told him.





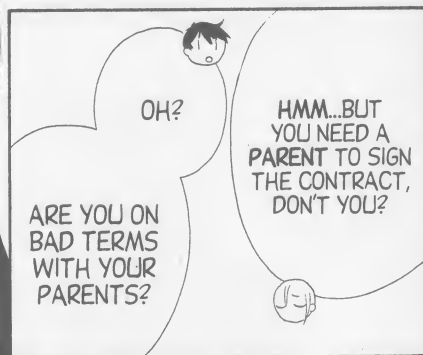




...WE  
PUSH...

...ALL OF  
EACH OTHERS'  
WRONG  
BUTTONS, I  
GUESS...

*It's hard to  
explain.*



OH?

HMM...BUT  
YOU NEED A  
PARENT TO SIGN  
THE CONTRACT,  
DON'T YOU?

ARE YOU ON  
BAD TERMS  
WITH YOUR  
PARENTS?



MORE  
LIKE...

BAD  
TERMS  
...



*There's  
Yun-Yun,  
and Com-  
mander,  
that Kyo  
guy...*

DOES  
BEAUTY  
RUN IN THE  
SOHMA  
BLOOD?

THAT  
GOOD-LOOKING  
GUY YOU WERE  
TALKING TO...

HE'S  
ANOTHER  
RELATIVE  
OF YOURS,  
RIGHT, YUN-  
YUN?

THAT'S  
RIGHT.



...YEAH.

I'LL...

...CHANGE  
MY WAY OF THINK-  
ING.



ARGH,  
YOU REALLY  
ARE DENSE  
SOMETIMES.

HMM...  
I WONDER?



Ah!

ONE  
WITH A  
CAMERA! IF  
YOU BUY ONE,  
MAKE SURE  
IT HAS A  
CAMERA!

A CELL  
PHONE,  
HUH... IS IT  
USEFUL?

YOU  
BET YOUR  
ASS IT IS!  
YOU SHOULD  
GET ONE,  
YUN-YUN.

Hm?

SENDING  
A TEXT  
MESSAGE TO  
KIMI, SAYING  
I FOUND  
YUN-YUN.

...HEY,  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?



YEAH, YEAH.  
"PUSHING  
THE WRONG  
BUTTONS!"  
LIKE THAT!

EH?



THAT...!

I KNOW  
HOW THAT  
IS!

I KNOW  
EXACTLY HOW  
THAT IS!

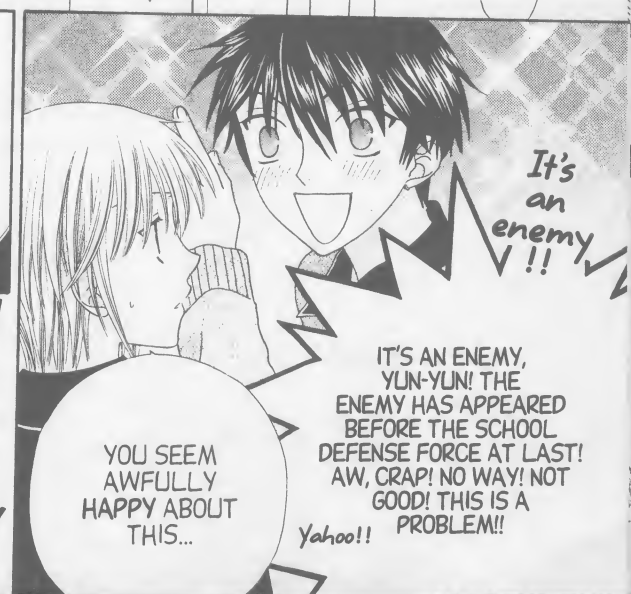
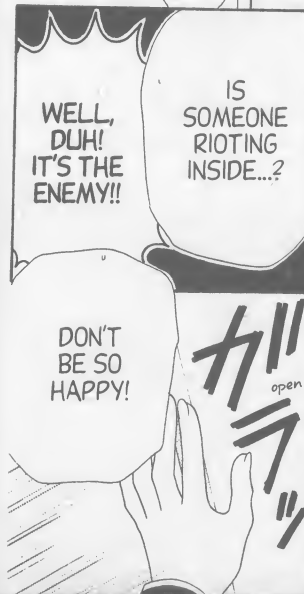
Student Council  
Room

THAT'S  
WHAT IT IS,  
ALL RIGHT.

Mm-hm.

...? WHAT  
ARE YOU  
AGREEING  
WITH YOUR-  
SELF ON...?



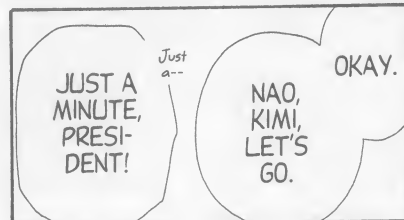




I'LL  
FILL  
IN THE  
HOLES.

THEN,  
MACHI AND  
I WILL BE  
ABSENT.

Yes,  
yes.



JUST A  
MINUTE,  
PRESI-  
DENT!

Just  
a--

NAO,  
KIMI,  
LET'S  
GO.

OKAY.



I UNDER-  
STAND. FOR  
NOW, WE'LL  
LEAVE IT  
TO YOU.

WE'LL  
GO AHEAD  
AND START  
THE MEETING...  
WE'RE COUNT-  
ING ON YOU.

HUH?!



ARE YOU  
SURE ABOUT  
THIS?! PRE-  
TENDING WE  
DIDN'T SEE  
THAT?!

IT'S  
JUST FOR  
NOW. WE'LL  
MAKE SURE IT  
GETS TAKEN  
CARE OF  
LATER.



THAT'S  
NOT WHAT  
I MEAN--!



I...  
SAID...  
LATER.

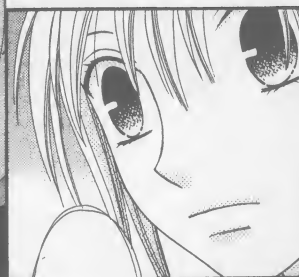


A  
polter-  
geist?!

Kyaaaah!

WHAT  
THE--?!  
WHAT IS  
THIS?!

...HEY.



"MACHI!!!"



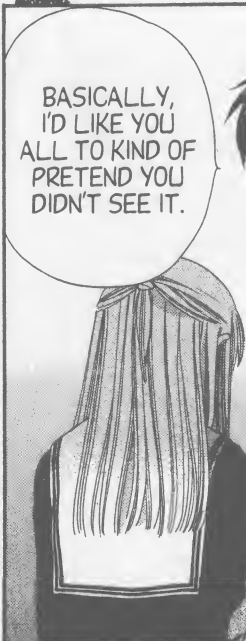
"YOU DID  
IT AGAIN,  
DIDN'T  
YOU!?!"



WE  
CAN'T DO  
SUCH A  
THING!

No  
way!

OKAY.



BASICALLY,  
I'D LIKE YOU  
ALL TO KIND OF  
PRETEND YOU  
DIDN'T SEE IT.

OF  
COURSE  
NOT!! THIS  
MUST BE--

HEY.

WILL  
YOU LET ME  
TAKE CARE  
OF THIS?



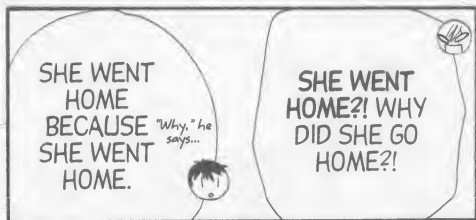




WHA?!  
YOU HAVEN'T  
FINISHED  
CLEANING IT  
UP YET?!

WHERE'S  
MACHI?

SHE  
WENT  
HOME.



SHE WENT  
HOME  
BECAUSE  
SHE WENT  
HOME.

*"Why," he  
says...*

SHE WENT  
HOME?! WHY  
DID SHE GO  
HOME?!



I AM  
NOT  
PLEASED!!

EH...?

IN  
THAT CASE,  
I'M NOT FEELING  
WELL EITHER,  
SO I'LL BE  
GOING ON HOME  
MYSELF!



...AND  
WENT  
HOME.

SHE...  
LEFT THE  
MESS FOR  
THE REST  
OF US TO  
CLEAN  
UP...



HEEEY.

THANKS  
FOR GOING  
AHEAD WITH  
THE MEET-  
ING.



SO...

WHY  
MUST  
KIMI BE  
LIKE  
THAT...?

*Oh dear!  
What?*

We'll  
pound  
you!

STOP  
JOKING AROUND  
LIKE THAT! WE  
DID CLEAN  
IT!!



MAYBE IT'S  
JUST HER  
WAY OF  
RELIEVING  
STRESS...

BUT I  
WISH SHE  
WOULDN'T  
CAUSE PROB-  
LEMS FOR  
OTHERS!



...IT  
REALLY  
WAS  
KURAGI'S  
DOING.

THERE HAVE  
BEEN RUMORS  
ABOUT HER  
FOR A WHILE.  
THAT SHE'S  
A DEMON OF  
DESTRUCTION.



SHE'S A  
STRANGE  
WOMAN,  
APPAR-  
ENTLY.

...BREAKING  
THINGS...  
STUFF LIKE  
THAT.

KNOCK-  
ING OVER  
BOOKS,  
DUMPING  
BOXES OF  
CHALK...





...SHE'S  
DEPRESSED?

COULD  
IT BE...



COULD  
BE.

HMMM  
...



MY  
LITTLE  
SISTER.



TO  
YOU, I  
MEAN.

WHAT  
IS MACHI  
...?

...HEY.



SHE  
WON'T TRY  
TO TALK  
ABOUT ANY-  
THING.

WHEN  
I ASKED IF  
IT WAS MY  
FAULT...

...SHE  
WENT  
HOME.



YOU'RE  
NOT GOING  
TO HELP  
ME?

WELL,  
KAKERU,  
GOOD LUCK  
ON FINISHING  
CLEANING  
UP.

I HAVE  
THINGS  
TO DO,  
TOO.

Besides...  
YOU SAID  
YOU'D FILL IN  
THE HOLES,  
RIGHT?

AND WE  
STILL  
HAVE  
WORK  
TO DO  
...

...THERE'S  
PROBABLY  
A LOT OF  
THINGS HE'S  
NOT HAPPY  
ABOUT RIGHT  
NOW.

WHAT  
IS CHIBI-SUKE  
SO WORKED  
UP ABOUT?



I DON'T  
KNOW,  
MAN...

THOSE  
ARE  
IMPORTANT  
PAPERS...!

WHY  
YOU--!  
WHAT DID  
YOU DO  
THAT  
FOR?!

EH?!

WHY  
DOES  
MACHI DO  
THESE  
THINGS?



FLY  
AWAY!

A A A H H !

AND  
SO...

...A FIERCE  
COMPETITION  
DEVELOPED  
BETWEEN OUR  
MOTHERS.

BOTH  
SAYING, "MY  
CHILD IS THE  
APPROPRIATE  
HEIR."

AS A  
RESULT, MACHI  
AND I...

...WERE  
RAISED  
VERRRRY  
STRICTLY.

MACHI  
AND I ARE  
SIBLINGS...

...BUT  
WE HAVE  
DIFFERENT  
MOTHERS.

I'M THE  
OLDEST  
SON, BUT  
THROUGH A  
MISTRESS.

MACHI  
WAS BORN  
TO HIS LEGAL  
WIFE, BUT  
SHE'S A YEAR  
YOUNGER AND  
A GIRL.

IN OUR  
FAMILY,  
THINGS GOT  
KINDA...  
MESSY.

SEE, OUR  
FATHER'S PRETTY  
RICH, HIMSELF,  
SO THERE WAS A  
MESS ABOUT WHO  
WOULD BE HIS  
HEIR.



...AH...



WE'RE  
SIBLINGS.

MY  
SISTER.

EH?

DO  
THE SOHMAS  
EVER HAVE  
PROBLEMS  
ABOUT INHERI-  
TANCE?

*You  
seem to  
be pretty  
rich.*

HUH?  
BUT THEIR  
SURNAME'S  
ARE DIF-  
FERENT

...

*Yeah,  
that's it.  
It's like  
that!*

OH, I SEE,  
YOU'RE  
SIBLINGS!  
I GET IT!!

YOU'RE  
KIND OF  
AGREEING  
WITH YOUR-  
SELF, TOO,  
YUN-YUN.



HMM...

WELL,  
UM...THERE  
MIGHT BE...  
BUT I DON'T  
KNOW.

NO.

EH?





IT'S  
LIKE WE  
PUSHED...



...ALL  
THE  
WRONG  
BUTTONS.

JUST  
LIKE YOU  
SAID, YUKI.

INSIDE ME,  
AND WITH MY  
PARENTS...


...THERE'S  
STILL SOME  
TENSION  
LEFT.



I SEE...  
IT MIGHT  
BE ...



...THAT  
MACHI'S NOT  
"FREE" YET.



IT DOESN'T  
MATTER IF AN  
HEIR IS MALE  
OR FEMALE OR  
WHATEVER.

AND TO DRAG  
YOUNG KIDS INTO  
IT...OUR PARENTS  
REALLY ARE  
HOPELESS.



IT'S  
SUCH AN OLD-  
FASHIONED  
IDEA TO BEGIN  
WITH.

MAN...

AFTER  
THAT...

...I THINK MY  
MOTHER CAME  
TO HER SENSES,  
TOO, BECAUSE SHE  
PULLED OUT OF  
THE SUCCESSION  
DEBATE.



AND  
I WAS  
OFFICIALLY  
FREE!

AND SO,  
THAT BRINGS  
US TO THE  
PRESENT.

"I'M  
BEING USED  
AS A PAWN  
IN SOMEONE  
ELSE'S STU-  
PID GAME."

I GUESS  
THAT'S WHAT  
THEY CALL  
THE BUDDING  
OF ONE'S  
SELF.

I WENT ON  
A RAMPAGE,  
SAYING, "I'M NOT  
GONNA PLAY  
YOUR STUPID  
GAME ANY-  
MORE!"

AT FIRST, I  
OBEDIENTLY  
WENT ALONG  
WITH IT AND  
TRIED TO LIVE  
UP TO THEIR  
DEMANDS.

'CUZ,  
YOU KNOW,  
WHEN YOU'RE  
A KID, YOUR  
PARENTS ARE  
EVERYTHING.

BUT  
ONE DAY...

...I  
STARTED  
THINKING, "ISN'T  
THIS KINDA  
CRAZY?"





....

...YOU  
HAVE TO  
DEAL WITH  
WHAT YOU'VE  
GOT.

YOU'RE  
RIGHT.



IT'S  
LIKE...

*Basically...*

...? WHAT'S  
THAT SUP-  
POSED TO  
MEAN?

I MEAN,  
WHAT IF I  
LOOK COOL  
WITH THE  
WRONG  
BUTTONS  
PRESSED?

YEAH, I'M  
NOT SO SURE  
ABOUT "GOING  
BACK."

BUT  
MAYBE WE  
CAN GO BACK  
AND LEARN  
THE RIGHT  
BUTTONS TO  
PRESS.



WAH?!



...CHILDREN  
CAN'T  
SWITCH  
THEIR  
PARENTS.

JUST  
LIKE PARENTS  
CAN'T SWITCH  
THEIR  
CHILDREN.

EVEN IF  
THEY'RE  
HOPELESS,  
OR IF YOU'RE  
APPALLED  
BY THEM, OR  
ANGRY WITH  
THEM...

OH,  
MY...

WHAT'S  
THIS? HAVE  
YOU GONE  
MAD, TOO,  
YUN-YUN?

*After I  
went to  
all the  
trouble  
to pick  
them  
up.*

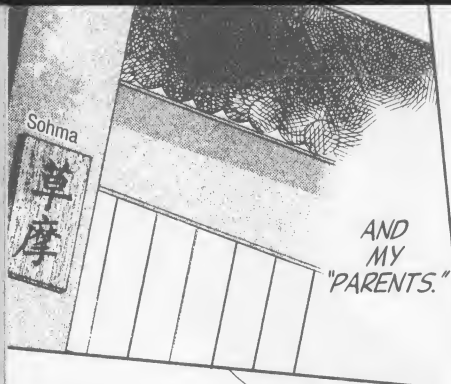
STILL...

...YOU  
HAVE TO  
LIVE WITH  
IT.

THERE'S  
NO "RESET"  
BUTTON.

SO...





AND MY "PARENTS."



...I SIGNED IT.

THIS IS ALL YOU NEED, RIGHT?

FOR THE CELL PHONE CONTRACT?



YES. HE AND I ARE BOTH VERY BUSY.

IS THIS ALL YOU WANTED?

YEAH... WILL DAD BE GETTING HOME LATE TONIGHT, TOO?

EVERY-ONE DOES.

KAKERU...

MACHI...

EVEN ME.

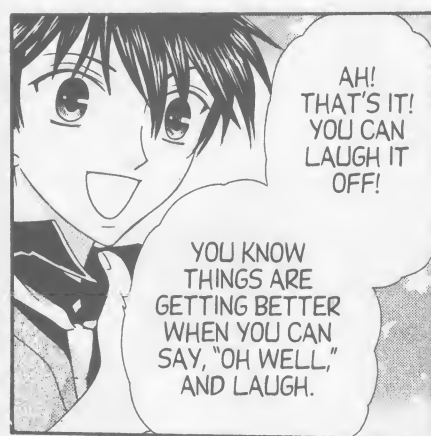


YOU LOOK LIKE A BUFFOON ...

HONESTLY ?

OUCH! THAT BAD, HUH?!

Eeh?!



AH! THAT'S IT! YOU CAN LAUGH IT OFF!

YOU KNOW THINGS ARE GETTING BETTER WHEN YOU CAN SAY, "OH WELL," AND LAUGH.



IF I LOOK COOL WHEN I PRESS MYSELF HERE...

UNCOOL!!



WHAT YOU'RE SAYING DOESN'T FOLLOW. I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

I'm confused.

...IN THEIR LIVES.

EVERYONE HAS PRESSURES ...

ALL KINDS OF PRESSURES, AND WE JUST HAVE TO LEARN TO DEAL WITH THEM.

Like I said--



THAT  
MIGHT BE THE  
FIRST TIME  
SHE'S SAID  
ANYTHING LIKE  
THAT...



"YOU  
KNOW  
THINGS ARE  
GETTING  
BETTER  
WHEN YOU  
CAN SAY,  
"OH WELL,"  
AND LAUGH."



SOMETHING  
SO...

...MOTHERLY.



"THAT'S  
IT!"



MADAME.

IT'S  
ALMOST  
TIME FOR  
YOU TO BE  
GOING OUT.

Y-YES, I  
KNOW.



...THANK  
YOU.

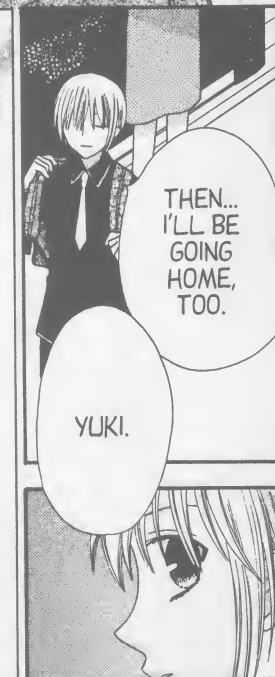
I JUST  
NEEDED A  
PARENT'S  
SIGNATURE.

YEAH.



DON'T  
...

DON'T...  
USE IT  
WASTE-FULLY.



THEN...  
I'LL BE  
GOING  
HOME,  
TOO.

YUKI.



## Chapter 82

IF SOMEDAY...

...WE CAN  
LOOK BACK  
ON IT...



...AND LAUGH  
TOGETHER...





THE  
ELECTRIC  
BILL...

OH, THAT  
SOUNDS SO  
ROMANTIC...!

Now, sparkle,  
my house of  
learning!!

AAYA LIT UP  
THE ENTIRE  
CAMPUS WITH  
SPOTLIGHTS!

COULD  
YOU NOT  
USE NII-SAN  
AS AN  
EXAMPLE  
...?



DO  
YOUR BEST,  
PRESIDENT-  
SAN!

Eh  
heh!

OH,  
REALLY.  
I DIDN'T  
KNOW  
THAT.

TO BE  
ROMANTIC,  
YOU HAVE  
TO SPEND  
MONEY!!

Kyon-  
chan, you  
have no  
imagina-  
tion!!

THAT  
SMILE  
HAS MADE  
ME VERY  
ANGRY...

WOULD  
YOU LIKE SOME  
GELATIN FOR  
DESSERT?

UM... BY  
THE WAY,  
EVERYONE...



IT'S JUST  
THAT THE  
STUDENT  
BODY NEEDS  
TO MAKE THE  
ADVANCE  
PREPARA-  
TIONS.

NO,  
IT'S STILL  
A WAYS OFF.  
WE HAVE  
TESTS, FIRST.

IS IT TIME  
FOR THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL  
ALREADY?

Anyway...

I'm going  
to cry!



IT'S  
NOT TRUE,  
IT'S NOT  
TRUE...

Both of those are lies.

I'VE  
HEARD RUMORS  
THAT THERE'S  
GOING TO BE A  
CAMPFIRE, AND  
WE'RE EVEN GOING  
TO SHOOT OFF  
FIREWORKS. IS  
THAT TRUE?

OH  
YEAH.  
YUKI-  
KUN!

THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL  
THIS YEAR...



...BUT  
IT'S KIND OF  
IMPOSSIBLE.  
I'M SORRY.

I  
SEEM TO  
REMEMBER  
SOMEONE  
SUGGESTING  
THOSE  
THINGS...

YES...  
OF  
COURSE  
...



N-NO...!  
PLEASE  
DON'T  
APOLOGIZE!

IMPOSSIBLE,  
YOU SAY?



Basically, it's like this. Continued...

Sixth month: Isuzu, from Isuzukuretsuki (month of the last cool spring days)

Seventh month: Hiro, from Fumihi-rogetsuki (month of publication)

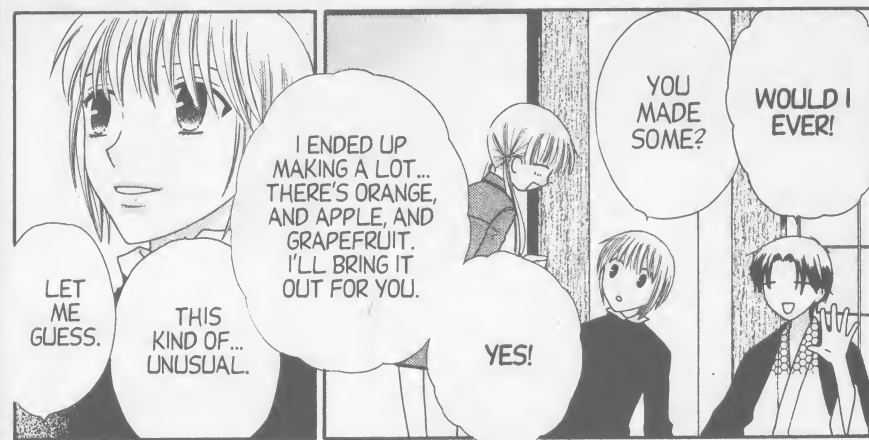
Eighth month: Ritsu, from Odakaritsuki (rice harvest month)

Ninth month: Momiji, from Momijitsuki (Autumn leaves month)

Tenth month: Shigure, from Shigurezuki (Autumn showers month)

Eleventh month: Kagura, from Kagurazuki (month of Shinto song and dance)

...like that. T-tired! I really am bad at writing the kanji characters. Especially writing horizontally. I don't know if it's because I'm left-handed or what, though.





NEVER...!

HEY,  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING,  
EATING  
AL-  
READY?!

N-NO...

I'M NOT  
TROUBLED.  
NOT AT ALL...  
ABSOLUTELY  
NOT!



THANK  
YOU.

...



...TO  
BE  
SUFFER-  
ING.

SHE  
SEEMED  
...

HEY!  
SCUM OF AN  
ADULT, OVER  
THERE!

THE  
LEAST I CAN  
DO TO THANK  
YOU IS TO  
FEED YOU THIS  
DELICIOUS  
GELATIN.

Say, "aahh."  
♡



HUH?

MORE  
SPECIFICALLY,  
SHE DIDN'T  
SWING THE I.V.  
AT YOU?

YOU  
WENT  
TO THE  
HOSPI-  
TAL?

YES!

WHEN  
YOU WENT,  
DID RIN...  
SEEM  
OKAY?

THEY  
EXIST.

Trust me.

WHERE  
WOULD YOU  
FIND A SICK  
PATIENT  
WHO WOULD  
DO THAT?

That's stupid.

NO,  
SHE  
WOULD  
NEVER...



DRAGGING  
YOU INTO  
FAMILY  
PROBLEMS...  
WE'VE  
CAUSED YOU  
TROUBLE.

THAT  
YOU HAD TO  
GET MIXED  
UP WITH  
RIN.

I'M  
TERRIBLY  
SORRY  
ABOUT  
THIS.

AH! UM,  
BUT IT'S  
TRUE SHE  
DID SEEM  
VERY ENER-  
GETIC...!

AND  
THE  
COLOR IS  
BACK IN  
HER  
FACE.

I MUST BE  
GETTING TO BE  
MORE AND MORE  
CONCEITED.

I KEEP  
THINKING...  
THINGS LIKE  
THAT.

GELATIN.

"IF I COULD  
ONLY DO  
SOMETHING..."

BUT...

...I CAN'T  
HELP BUT  
THINK THOSE  
THINGS.

ENDURING  
BY HER-  
SELF.

SUFFERING  
FROM THE  
PAIN IN HER  
HEART.

ALL  
ALONE...

...THAT  
FOR A  
LONG TIME  
SHE'S BEEN  
HOLDING  
ON BY  
HERSELF.

I'M  
SURE...



EVEN  
SO...

WON'T  
YOU...

...EAT  
YOUR  
DINNER?

...FOOD  
THAT I  
HATE.

IT'S  
ALL...



WHAT  
FOOD...  
DON'T YOU  
HATE?

SHE  
SEEMED  
TO BE  
SUFFER-  
ING...

...AS  
SHE HELD  
ME.

I  
WAS PA-  
THETIC.

ALL I  
COULD DO  
WAS HOLD  
HER IN  
RETURN.



YOU  
CAME...

...AGAIN?

EXCUSE...  
ME?

nok  
nok

clack

ISUZU-  
SAN  
...?

IT  
LOOKS  
VERY,  
VERY  
GOOD ON  
YOU!!

THIS  
IS THE  
FIRST TIME  
I'VE SEEN  
YOU WITH  
YOUR HAIR  
TIED BACK!

YOU'RE  
SO  
CUTE!!

?!

EH!?!

OH MY,  
WHAT SHOULD  
I DO? SHE'S NOT  
SUPPOSED TO  
HAVE VISITORS  
RIGHT NOW.

OH!

IS SHE,  
UM, I MEAN...  
IS SHE THAT  
BAD...?!

No,  
that's  
not it  
...

.....  
?

IT'S  
OKAY TO  
LET GIRLS  
SEE HER.

THANK  
GOODNESS. IN  
THAT CASE,  
PLEASE, GO  
AHEAD AND  
SEE HER.

IS  
THAT  
SO?

ISUZU  
SOHMA-  
SAN?





OKAY...!

....



Ah!

THEN,  
MAY I BORROW  
YOUR REFRIGE-  
RATOR?



I'LL  
EAT IT  
LATER.

I...

...HATE...  
EATING  
IN FRONT  
OF OTHER  
PEOPLE.



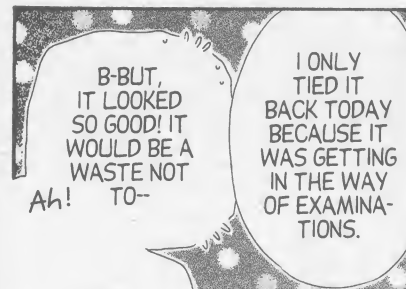
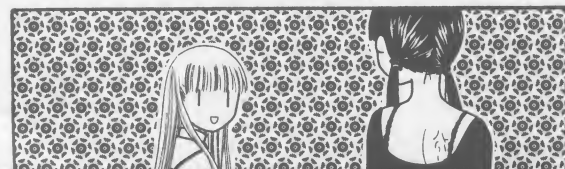
IT'S  
ABOUT THE  
ZODIAC  
CURSE, ISN'T  
IT?



WHY  
DO YOU  
COME TO  
SEE ME?

SHOULD I  
GUESS?

YES?



B-BUT,  
IT LOOKED  
SO GOOD! IT  
WOULD BE A  
WASTE NOT  
Ah! TO--

I ONLY  
TIED IT  
BACK TODAY  
BECAUSE IT  
WAS GETTING  
IN THE WAY OF  
EXAMINA-  
TIONS.



THAT'S  
RIGHT!  
GELATIN!  
I BROUGHT  
SOME  
GELATIN!



IT MAY BE  
PRESUMPTUOUS  
OF ME, BUT I  
MADE SOME.



I PUT  
SOMETHING  
IN TO KEEP  
IT COOL, SO  
I THINK IT'S  
STILL COLD...

LATER.



Ahhh!

Untying...

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?!



HOW  
STUPID.

...YOU  
REALLY  
BROUGHT  
SOME?

EH  
HEH  
HEH.

...TOLD  
ME...

AKITO-  
SAN...

UNCHANG-  
ING.

...THAT HE IS  
LIKE GOD. THAT  
EVERYONE IN  
THE ZODIAC  
WILL LIVE BY  
HIS SIDE.

THAT  
EVERYONE...  
WOULD LIVE...  
IN THE SAME  
PLACE, AT THE  
SAME SPEED.

IS  
THAT...

...THE  
CURSE?

IS THE  
"BOND"...

...WHAT  
THE CURSE  
IS...TO  
EVERYONE?

I HAD  
FORGOTTEN...!

I'M  
SORR--!

N-NO, IT'S  
NOT THAT I  
HAD COMPLETELY  
FORGOTTEN, BUT I WAS  
THINKING OF ONLY  
ISUZU-SAN HERSELF,  
SO YOU COULD SAY  
I CARELESSLY PUT  
IT TO THE SIDE.

N-NO! NOW  
THAT I'VE SAID  
I WOULD GET  
INVOLVED, I MUSTN'T  
BE CARELESS  
OR ANYTHING!

WHY IS IT  
THAT WHEN I  
THINK ABOUT  
THAT ONE THING,  
MY HEAD GETS  
SO FULL THAT...  
I... I...!

?

WHAT  
IS IT?

I'M THE  
WORST... THE  
WORST! I'M  
ASHAMED OF  
MYSELF!!



A  
BOND...

...MAY  
LOOK LIKE A  
BEAUTIFUL  
THING FROM  
THE OUT-  
SIDE...

...BUT  
IF THOSE  
INVOLVED SEE IT  
AS A BURDEN, IT'S  
NOTHING BUT A  
SHACKLE.

THAT'S  
WHY...

...IT'S A  
CURSE.



"CONNECTED  
BY BLOOD."

"A BOND OF  
BLOOD."



WE  
MEMBERS  
OF THE  
ZODIAC...

...ARE  
STILL  
BOUND BY  
THAT  
PROMISE.

EVEN  
WITH NO  
MEMORIES  
OF IT.

THE  
BLOOD OF  
THE SPIRITS  
REMEMBERS.



ALWAYS  
...

...BE  
TOGETHER.



EVEN IF  
THEY WERE  
REBORN  
SEVERAL  
TIMES...

...THEY  
WOULD  
GO TO HIS  
SIDE,  
AND NEVER  
LEAVE.

THEY  
WOULD  
GO TO SEE  
HIM.

THEY  
WOULD  
ALWAYS  
...

TO BE  
TOGETHER  
...

...FOR  
ETERNITY.



IT'S  
NOT  
LIKE...

...I  
REALLY  
HAVE ANY  
MEMORIES  
OF IT...



...BUT  
GOD AND  
THE ZODIAC  
SPIRITS  
MADE A  
PROMISE.

I'M  
SURE  
OF IT.

A LONG...  
LONG TIME,  
HUNDREDS  
OF YEARS  
AGO.





HE'S NO GOOD.

"HE'S AKITO'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT OR SOMETHING."

HE DOES WHAT-EVER AKITO SAYS. HE WON'T HELP US.

HE'S SUSPICIOUS TO BEGIN WITH.

I CAN'T THINK OF HIM AS ONE OF US.

THAT'S RIGHT ...

YES... MAYBE KURENO-SAN.



BUT--!

YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

PLEASE... DON'T SAY IT'S NO GOOD...

UH, UM, BUT...

I ONLY SAID WHAT'S TRUE.

KURENO-SAN ISN'T SUSPICIOUS...



A WAY... TO BREAK THE CURSE.

I WONDER IF IT REALLY... DOESN'T EXIST.

NOT LIKE HE WOULD TELL US IF HE DID, THOUGH.

I DON'T KNOW IF EVEN AKITO KNOWS A WAY.



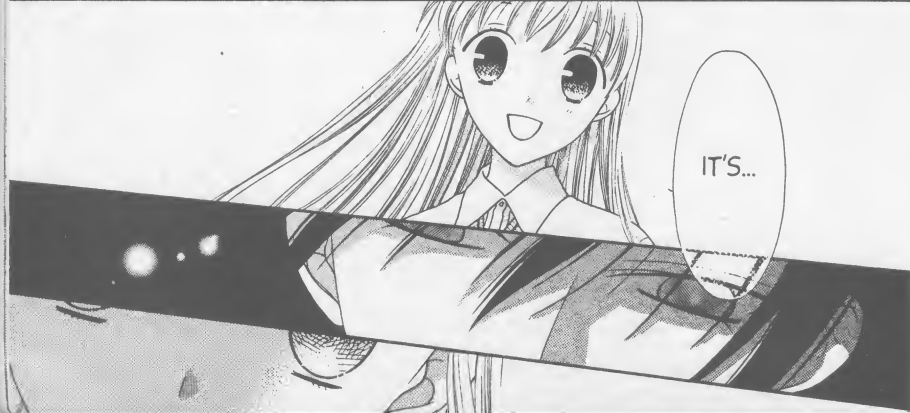
WHAT ABOUT...

...KURENO-SAN?

I THOUGHT... IF IT WAS SOMEONE CLOSE TO AKITO, THEN...

BUT GURENII SAYS HE DOESN'T KNOW, EITHER.







AND SO, a  
partnership  
is born!! Am  
I right?!



AS  
LONG AS  
YOU...

...PROMISE  
ME THAT  
YOU WON'T  
WORK TOO  
HARD...

...BY  
YOURSELF,  
ISUZU-  
SAN.



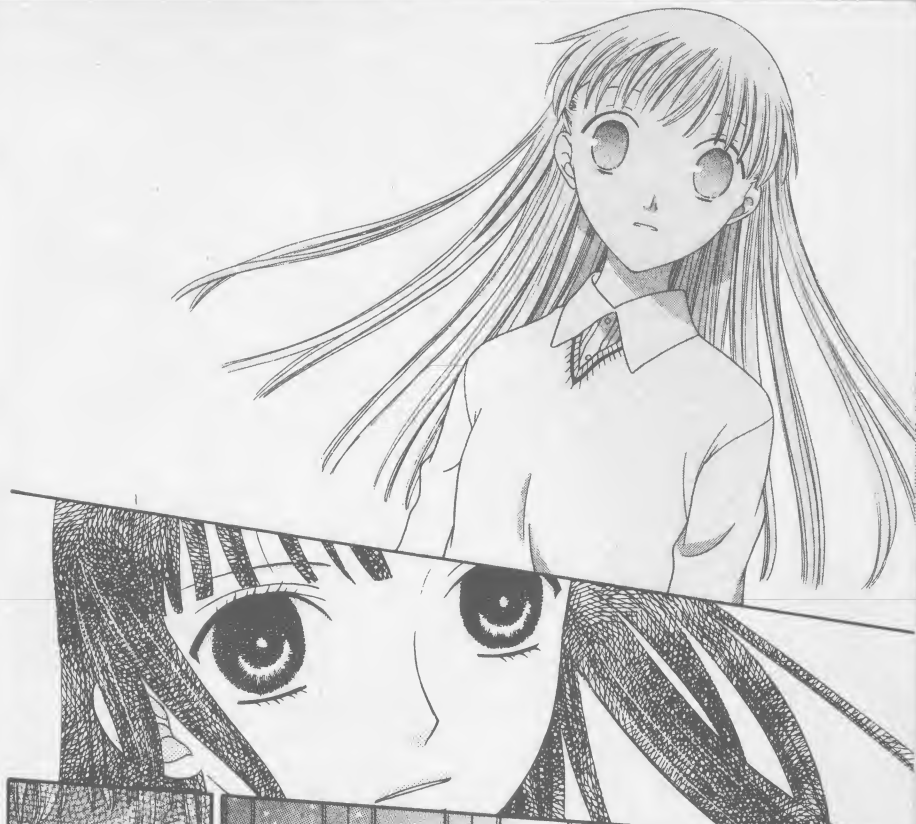
AH, UM,  
BUT I'LL DO  
MY BEST!  
I'LL WORK  
REALLY  
HARD...!

E E E H H ?!

Keh!

I DON'T NEED  
SOMEONE AS  
UNRELIABLE  
AS YOU FOR A  
PARTNER!!

*'THE THING  
THAT'S MOST  
IMPORTANT TO YOU-  
WHAT IS IT?'*



JUST  
DON'T DO  
THINGS ON  
YOUR OWN.

LIKE...

...GOING  
TO SEE  
KURENO  
BY YOUR-  
SELF.

IT...  
DOESN'T  
MATTER.

BEFORE,  
I WOULD  
HAVE BEEN  
ABLE TO  
REPLY RIGHT  
AWAY.

WHY WAS I  
SO SPEECH-  
LESS?

I...

YES...  
IT'S THE  
APART-  
MENT...

...WHERE  
WE  
ALWAYS  
LIVED,  
JUST THE  
TWO OF  
US.

THIS...ISN'T  
SHIGURE-  
SAN'S  
HOUSE.

THIS...

A  
FAMILIAR  
...

...SMELL.

...IS AN  
APART-  
MENT.

SOMEONE...  
IS THERE...

H...UH?

clack  
splat  
square

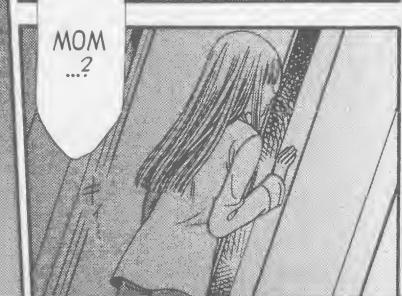
turn



わん  
press



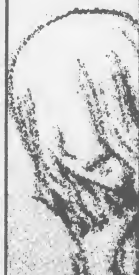








IF THAT HAPPENS  
...



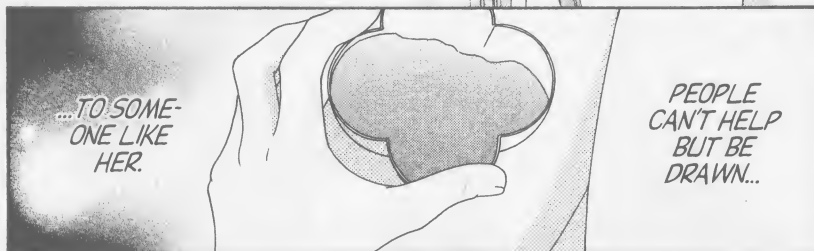
...NO ONE  
CAN  
BRING  
HER  
BACK.



SOMEONE  
WHO WILL  
GENTLY OPEN  
THAT DOOR.

LIKE  
HARU IS  
THERE FOR  
ME.

I JUST  
HOPE THAT  
SHE CAN FIND  
THE RIGHT  
PERSON FOR  
HER.



...TO SOME-  
ONE LIKE  
HER.

PEOPLE  
CAN'T HELP  
BUT BE  
DRAWN...



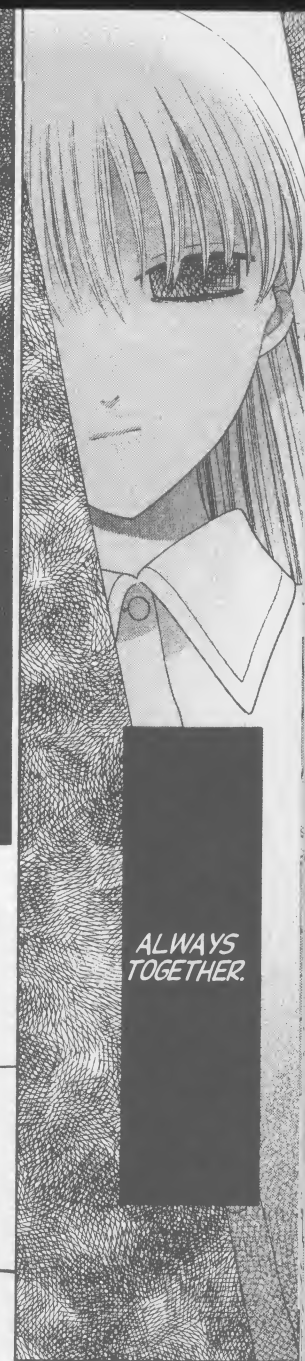
close

I CAN'T  
EXPLAIN IT  
TO ANYONE...

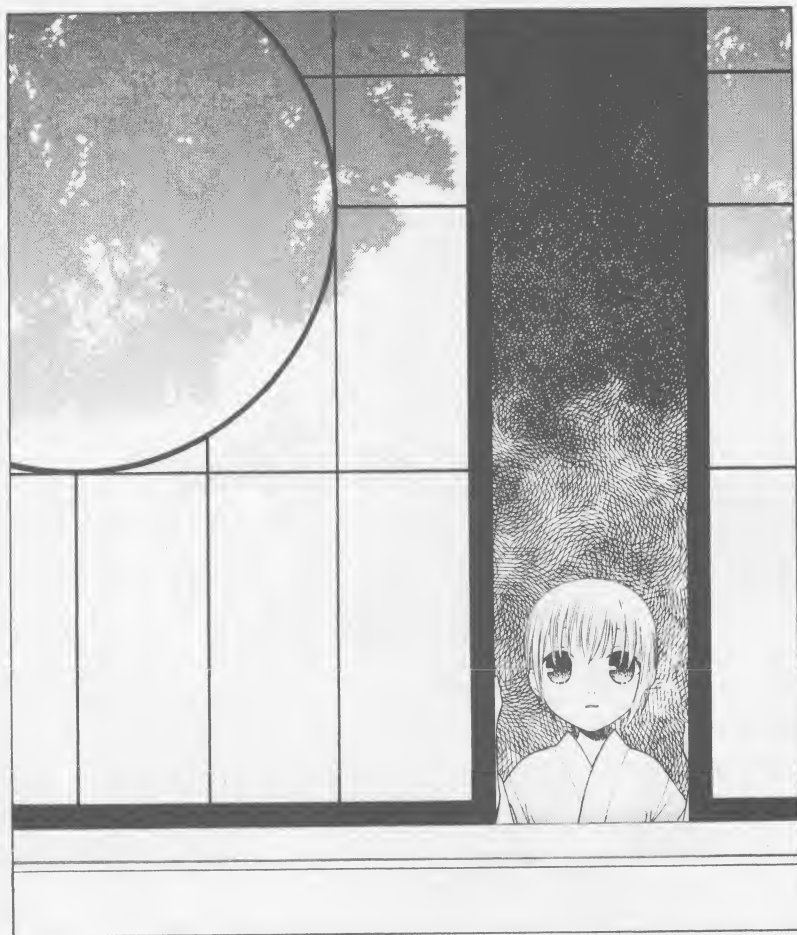
...BUT ON THE  
OTHER SIDE OF  
THAT DOOR...



...I'M AFRAID  
THAT SHE'S  
STARTING TO  
FALL APART.



ALWAYS  
TOGETHER.



## Chapter 83

PEOPLE  
WHO  
KNOW...

...HOW  
SCARY IT  
IS TO BE  
ALONE...

THIS  
TASTES  
GOOD.



GOOD  
MORNING!



I'm sorry  
for worry-  
ing you...

Is your  
fever  
gone?

Yes!  
Completely.

...CAN'T  
HELP  
LOVING  
OTHERS.



AND FOR RUMORS OF THAT STUPID PLAN TO SPREAD... GAH!

WHO ON EARTH WOULD HAVE PUT SUCH A STUPID PLAN IN THE SUGGESTION BOX?

*It was anonymous.*



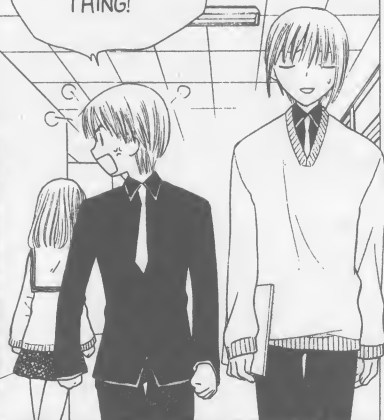
MAYBE WHOEVER SUGGESTED IT IS GOING AROUND TELLING PEOPLE.

IT'S HARD WORK GOING AROUND DENYING EVERYTHING!

*I indeed!!*

I WISH THEY'D REALIZE THAT IT'S SO INCREDIBLE IT DEFIES COMMON SENSE!

*Everyone...*



IT'S IRRESPONSIBLE!!

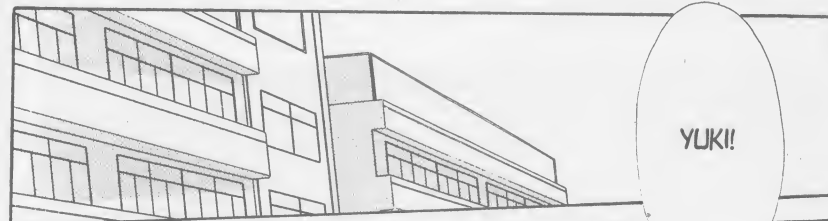
I WISH I COULD SEE THE FACE OF WHOEVER'S BEHIND THIS.

*It really is.*

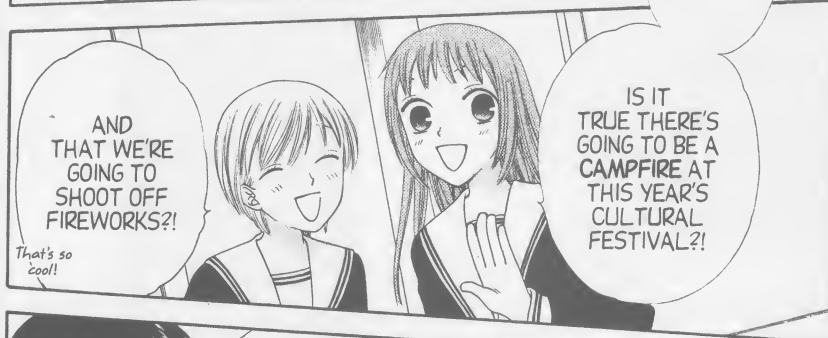
OH!

HEY, YUN-YUN! ABOUT THE PLAN FOR THE CAMPFIRE AND FIREWORKS THAT I SUGGESTED...

DID IT NOT GO THROUGH?!



YUKI!



AND THAT WE'RE GOING TO SHOOT OFF FIREWORKS?!

*That's so cool!*

IS IT TRUE THERE'S GOING TO BE A CAMPFIRE AT THIS YEAR'S CULTURAL FESTIVAL?!



YOU'RE GOING TO BAKE POTATOES AT THE CAMPFIRE AND GIVE THEM TO ALL THE STUDENTS?

INCREDIBLE!

ARE YOU REALLY GONNA SET OFF A HUNDRED FIREWORKS?!

PRESIDENT! THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL IS GONNA BE AWESOME!



... INCREDIBLE.

THAT REALLY IS...

...So.

There was one mistake in that Momiji's and Kuren's names are actually reversed. Really... Momitchi is Kuren. Kuren-san is Momiji. That's how it should have been. But what can I say... I'm sorry. When I was coming up with names, by the time I realized I was mistaken, it was too late. The chapter where Momitchi first shows up had already been published in Hana to Yume Magazine, and somehow, Momitchi had already become "Momiji!!" (at least from this creator's point of view). So, now, here I am thinking, "Well... c'est la vie." Wow...with flubs like that, you can't tell if I'm the kind of person who thinks things through or not...







I  
WON'T  
EVER  
DO IT  
AGAIN.



I  
PROMISE.



I AM  
VERY  
SORRY...

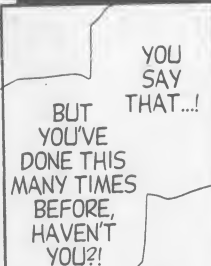
...FOR  
CAUSING  
SUCH  
TROUBLE.

I  
WON'T  
DO IT  
AGAIN.



DOESN'T  
IT DRIVE  
YOU INTO  
A CORNER  
EVEN  
MORE?

TALKING  
LIKE  
THAT...



YOU  
SAY  
THAT...!

BUT  
YOU'VE  
DONE THIS  
MANY TIMES  
BEFORE,  
HAVEN'T  
YOU?!



YOU  
SAY YOU  
"WON'T DO  
IT AGAIN."



"IT MIGHT  
BE THAT  
MACHI'S  
NOT FREE  
YET."

But...  
KIMI  
WAS  
SURE...



"WE'RE  
SIBLINGS..."

...BUT WE  
HAVE DIFFER-  
ENT MOTHERS."



KIMI  
KIMI  
KIMI!!

THAT  
IT WAS  
BECAUSE SHE  
DIDN'T WANT  
TO TAKE  
RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR TRASHING  
THE STUDENT  
COUNCIL ROOM  
AND WAS RUN-  
NING AWAY!



KURAGI!  
WHY DID  
YOU DO  
THAT?!

NO, SHE'S  
RIGHT! THIS IS  
A PROBLEM  
THAT NEEDS  
TO BE PROP-  
ERLY DEALT  
WITH!

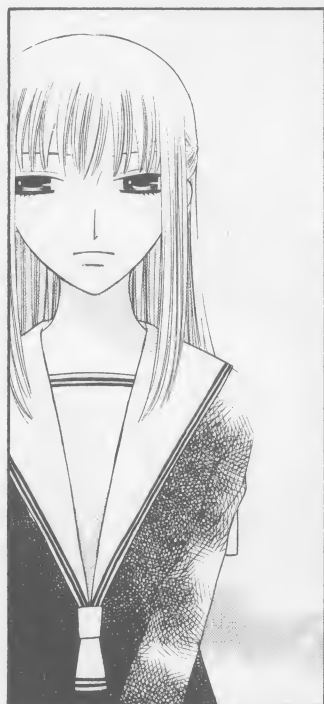
Didn't you say  
so yourself, Mr.  
President?!



I...



...SEE...



I'M NOT...

...LIKE THAT.



Squeal! ♡

YUN-YUN, YOU'RE SO HUMBLE!



You don't have to stay long. Just come!

BUT...

OH, IT'S FINE. GO ON.

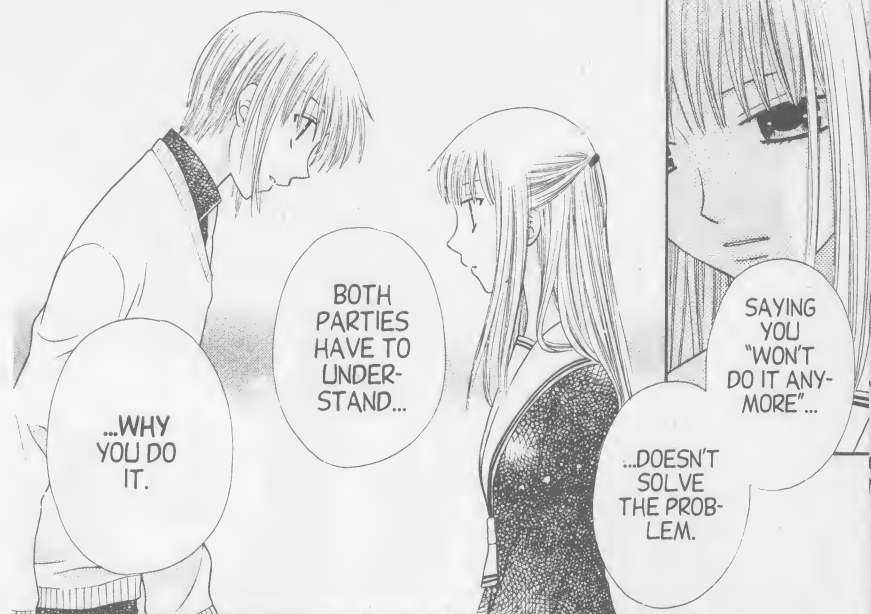
★Class D Asst.★  
Rep



"PRINCE"!  
THAT REMINDS ME!!

I'M SORRY, I... I PROMISED I'D GO TO OUR CLASS DISCUSSION...

WHAT'S UP?



...WHY YOU DO IT.

BOTH PARTIES HAVE TO UNDERSTAND...

...DOESN'T SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

SAYING YOU "WON'T" DO IT ANYMORE...



YUN-YUN, YOU'RE SO KIND!  
♡

WH-WHAT?

You say SUCH nice things!!



IT'S SOOO  
♡  
PRINGELY!  
♡

WE'RE NOT TEASING YOU. IT'S JUST THAT...

Get to work!

Kah! Like I'd be a party to this.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...? DON'T TEASE ME...



RIGHT, UO-CHAN, HANA-CHA--?

I'M SURE IT WILL BE A WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE!



IS CINDER-ELLA...NO GOOD?

I HEAR THE PLAY WAS ALSO DECIDED BY A DRAWING. IT CAN'T BE HELPED... ARISA...

BUT, MAN!



THAT'S THE LAST ONE.

NOW WE'LL ADD UP ALL THE VOTES AND DECIDE THE CAST.

PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT.

*Play*  
*Cinderella*



CINDER-ELLA ...

CRASH!



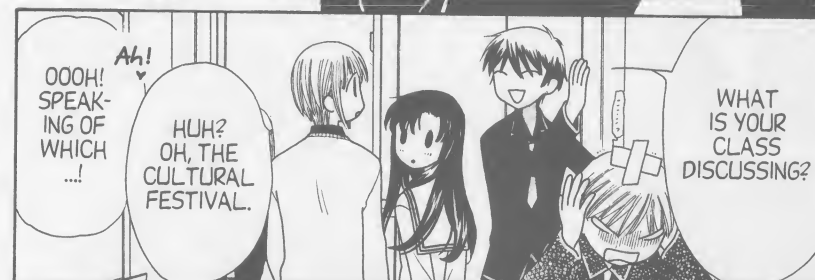
I WONDER IF YOU BEING AROUND HAS EVER HELPED ANYTHING...

*Heh!*



AS FOR MACHI, FOR NOW...

...SHE HAS ME TO FALL BACK ON, RIGHT?



OOOH! SPEAKING OF WHICH ...!

*Ah!*

HUH? OH, THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL.

WHAT IS YOUR CLASS DISCUSSING?



2-D

...WAS CHOSEN IN THE DRAWING TO PUT ON A PLAY, RIGHT?!

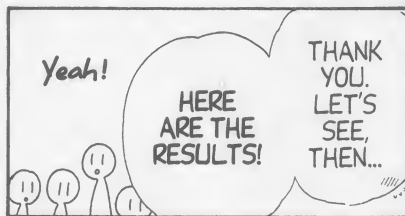
YUN-YUN'S CLASS...



I'LL WRITE IT.

All right!

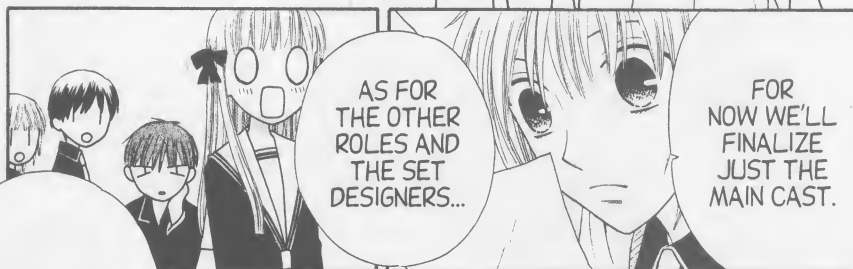
WE'VE FINISHED TALLY-ING! I'LL WRITE IT ON THE BOARD.



Yeah!

HERE ARE THE RESULTS!

THANK YOU. LET'S SEE, THEN....



AS FOR THE OTHER ROLES AND THE SET DESIGNERS...

FOR NOW WE'LL FINALIZE JUST THE MAIN CAST.

...I'D LIKE TO HAVE ANOTHER VOTE.

*Cinderella: Saki Hanajima*

*Prince Charming: Kyo Sohma*

*Stepmother: Minami Kinoshita*

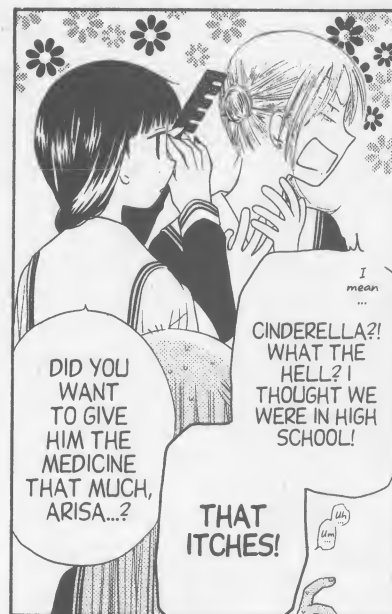
*Stepsister: Tohru Honda*

*Fairy Godmother: Yuki Sohma*



**THAT'S NOT TRUE!!**

I'M NOT FIT TO BE PRINCE CHARMING.



DID YOU WANT TO GIVE HIM THE MEDICINE THAT MUCH, ARISA...?

CINDERELLA?! WHAT THE HELL? I THOUGHT WE WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL!

THAT ITCHES!

sh  
um



Maybe you would say okay now?

ACTUALLY, WE HAD ALREADY DECIDED THAT YOU WOULD PLAY PRINCE CHARMING, YUKI-KUN! WE'RE SAD YOU TURNED IT DOWN...

Thanks for your hard work.

I-I'M SORRY. I HAVE A LOT TO DO, WITH THE STUDENT COUNCIL AND ALL...

TO BE HONEST, I'M HAVING A HARD TIME DEALING WITH IT ALL.



I WANTED TO DO A HISTORICAL PLAY!

MITO KOLIMON\* WAS ON THE LIST, TOO, WASN'T IT?!

\*a play about Tokugawa Mitsunori, famous 17th century political leader and historian.

I WANTED TO BE THE GUY WHO GIVES HIM THE MEDICINE BOX!

YOU MEAN SUKE-SAN, RIGHT?!

Ah!



カ  
ラ  
ン  
ク  
clack

I'M SORRY!

THANK YOU FOR COMING! WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO TALLY THE VOTES.

I'M LATE, AREN'T I?





...YOUR  
HIGH-  
NESS  
...

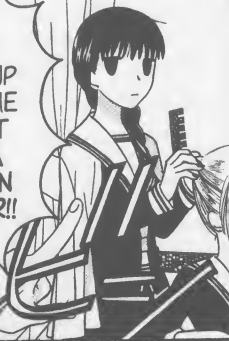
TREAT  
ME  
GENTLY  
...

CALM DOWN  
AND THINK IT  
OVER. THIS  
CAST IS ALL  
WRONG!

But he  
would be... so  
happy...

LOOK,  
YOU  
GUYS!

IT'S  
ALREADY  
SCREWED UP  
JUST BY THE  
FACT THAT  
HANAJIMA  
IS THE MAIN  
CHARACTER!!



WILL  
CINDERELLA'S  
DRESS BE  
BLACK AFTER  
ALL?!

THIS  
IS THE  
MOMENT  
A WICKED  
CINDERELLA  
IS BORN!!

SHE'S  
WICKED!!



NO TAKE-  
BACKS!!!

NOW  
WAIT  
JUST A  
MINUTE  
!!!



WE  
DON'T  
NEED  
PEOPLE  
LAUGH-  
ING AT  
THIS  
STORY!!

I know that  
much!!

WE'LL  
GET A  
LAUGH  
OUT OF  
IT.

YOU'LL  
LOOK  
GREAT IN  
A CROWN,  
PRINCE  
KYO.

WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH IT,  
PRINCE  
KYO?



DON'T  
TELL HIM.  
WHATEVER  
YOU DO,  
DON'T TELL  
HIM.

SHISHOU-  
SAN  
WILL BE  
THRILLED!

IT'S ...!  
WONDER-  
FUL THAT  
YOU'RE IN  
THE MAIN  
CAST! IT'S  
INCREDIBLE!



WHAT  
MAKES YOU  
THINK I CAN  
EVEN ACT  
TO BEGIN  
WITH!?!?

Hey!  
None  
of that  
"ha ha  
ha"  
crap!!



Well then...

WE'LL  
CALL IT A  
WRAP FOR  
TODAY!

BUT  
AREN'T YOU  
PLAYING  
THE CRUEL  
STEPMOTHER,  
MINAMI?

AH...

THEN,  
CAN I GO  
BACK  
NOW?

I wasn't  
much help,  
though.

That's  
not true!  
Thanks for  
coming.

ARE YOU GOING  
BACK TO YOUR  
DUTIES IN  
THE STUDENT  
COUNCIL?

**CURSES  
COME  
HOME TO  
ROOST!!**



PLEASE...  
DO YOUR  
BEST!



YEAH.

UH, UM,  
DON'T  
PUSH  
YOURSELF  
TOO...



Of--

OF  
COURSE!!

I will  
SHOW YOU  
a cruelty  
deeper than  
the ocean!!

SHE'LL  
NEVER  
PULL IT  
OFF...

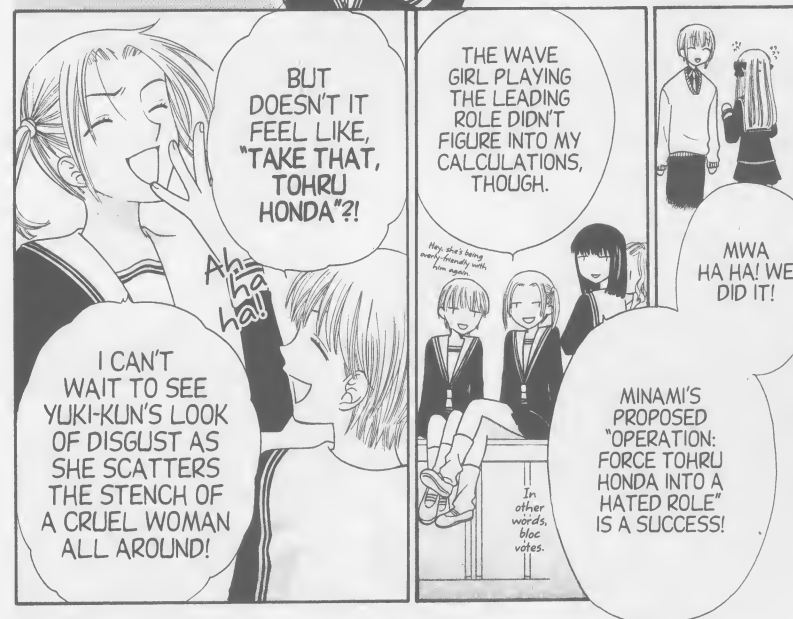
I'll bet...

Leave it to  
me with a  
boom!

HONDA-  
SAN?

YES!

ARE YOU  
ALL RIGHT?  
CAN YOU...  
PLAY A  
CRUEL  
STEPMIS-  
TER?



BUT  
DOESN'T IT  
FEEL LIKE,  
"TAKE THAT,  
TOHRU  
HONDA"?!

I CAN'T  
WAIT TO SEE  
YUKI-KUN'S LOOK  
OF DISGUST AS  
SHE SCATTERS  
THE STENCH OF  
A CRUEL WOMAN  
ALL AROUND!

THE WAVE  
GIRL PLAYING  
THE LEADING  
ROLE DIDN'T  
FIGURE INTO MY  
CALCULATIONS,  
THOUGH.

Hey, she's bang  
nearly dead, with  
her again.

MWA  
HA HA! WE  
DID IT!

MINAMI'S  
PROPOSED  
"OPERATION:  
FORCE TOHRU  
HONDA INTO A  
HATED ROLE"  
IS A SUCCESS!

In  
other  
words,  
blat  
votes.

Student Council  
Room

KAKERU  
AND MACHI  
WENT TO  
GO BUY  
SOME  
THINGS.

Welcome  
baaack!

HUH...?

THIS  
IS AN  
UNUSUAL  
PAIRING.

THEY  
MUST NOT  
HAVE TOLD  
ANYONE THAT  
THEY'RE HALF-  
SIBLINGS.

I guess  
it's not  
something  
you'd want  
to broad-  
cast...

THOSE  
TWO, YOU  
KNOW, THEY  
SEEM KIND  
OF CLOSE.  
DON'CHA  
THINK, NAO-  
CHAN?

MORE  
IMPORTANTLY,  
I WOULD  
APPRECIATE  
IT IF YOU  
STOPPED  
CALLING ME  
THAT!

OH  
YEAH,  
PRESIDENT  
...

WHERE  
IS THE LIST  
OF THINGS  
WE'RE  
ORDERING?

"...WILL  
YOU ALWAYS  
GO CRYING TO  
HER?"

"...OR..."

DO  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT HIM!

TOHRU!

AH...  
YES!

I KEEP  
TELLING  
HIM TO  
JUST  
GIVE IN!

SHUT UP!  
EVERYONE'S  
JUST MESS-  
ING AROUND!

"THE  
IMPORTANT  
THING IS..."





Dash dash...

THANKS ...

IT'S ALREADY BROKEN, ANYWAY...



He's right.

WE'LL GO GET SOMEONE. JUST HANG IN THERE, YUN-YUN!

HELP... I'M GOING TO GO GET HELP!

PLEASE STOP! I REALLY DON'T WANT ANYTHING ELSE TO BE DESTROYED!



I WONDER ...

...IF THE LIGHTS REALLY ARE BROKEN?

It's dark...

WAH!



Still...

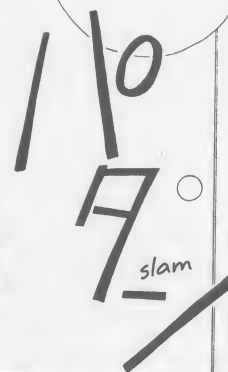
THIS IS PATHETIC.

IF I REALLY WAS "PRINCELY" ...

...I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO STUPID AS TO GET MYSELF LOCKED IN, THAT'S FOR SURE.



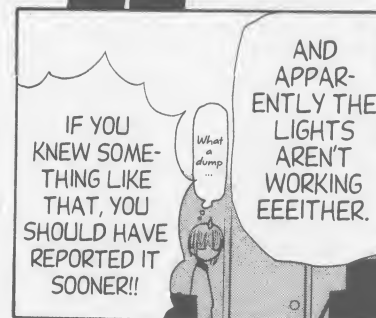
THE LOCK'S BEEN BROKEN SINCE YESTERDAY!



I DON'T KNOW. WHERE WAS IT ...?

I WONDER IF I LEFT IT IN THE STORAGE ROOM NEXT DOOR.

AH! YUN-YUN, YOU'D BETTER NOT GO IN THERE!



IF YOU KNEW SOMETHING LIKE THAT, YOU SHOULD HAVE REPORTED IT SOONER!!

AND APPARENTLY THE LIGHTS AREN'T WORKING EITHER.



...IS IT OKAY IF I KICK IT DOWN?

IT'S TRUE. IT WON'T OPEN.

WHA?!



NOOO! YUN-YUUN! KIMI TRIED TO TELL YOU!

YOU TOLD HIM TOO LATE!!







"WATCHING  
YOU TRY TO  
KEEP UP THE  
FACADE OF  
OPTIMISM  
..."

"YOU'RE  
PATHETIC,  
AREN'T  
YOU..."

"...IT  
HURTS."

"A LOT."

"...YUKI?"



"I  
KNOW  
...WHAT  
YOU'RE  
LOOK-  
ING  
FOR..."

"...WHAT  
YOU WANT,  
WHAT YOU'RE  
SEARCHING  
FOR..."

"I KNOW."

"I UNDER-  
STAND..."

"...IN TOHRLI  
HONDA."

"...IN  
HER..."



BLACK



AH...

AAAGH!  
IT'S  
PAINT...

WHY IS  
THERE  
PAINT IN  
HERE?

It's like a  
storehouse  
for trash.

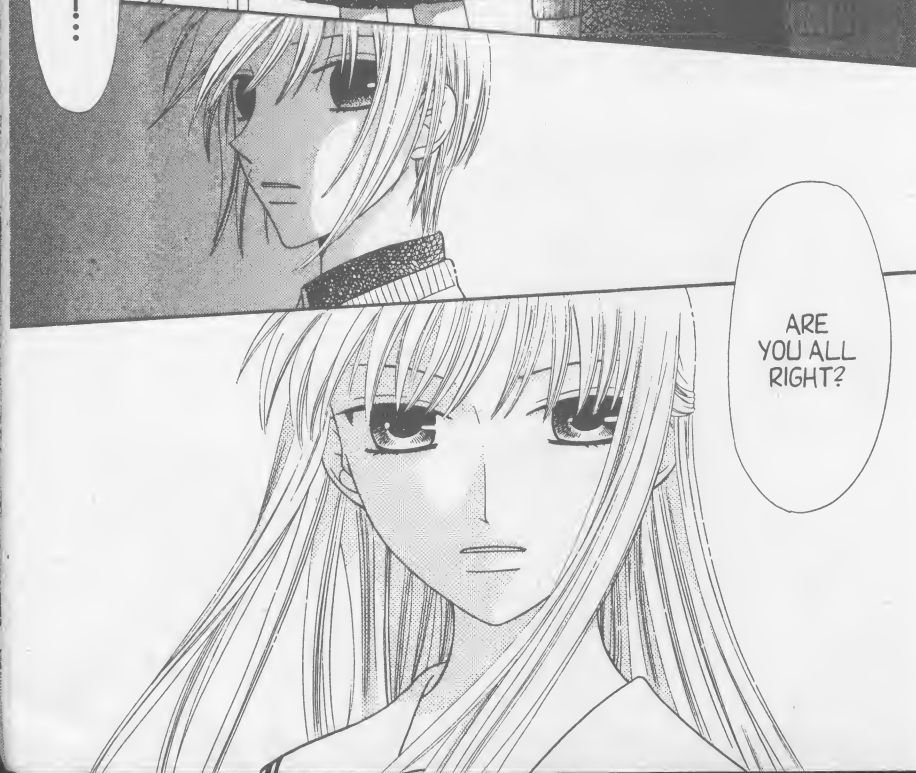


AND IT'S  
BLACK.





clonk



ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT?



YOU'RE  
SO FRICKIN'  
ANNOYING!

SAVING  
LIVES  
...?

IN THIS  
SITUATION,  
SAVING LIVES  
COMES FIRST!  
UNDERSTAND,  
CHIBI-SUKE?!

OH, C'MON!  
IT'S NOT  
THAT  
SERIOUS!!

All right.

LET'S  
DO IT!

YOU JUST  
WANT TO  
BREAK THE  
DOOR DOWN,  
DON'T YOU?!

JUST A--!  
KURAGI, WHAT  
ARE YOU--?!

...HEY!

KER-SMASH







I...

.....

...HAVEN'T TOLD THIS TO ANYONE BEFORE.

I HAVEN'T EVEN TOLD THE PERSON INVOLVED.

.....

...PITIFUL AND PATHETIC.

IT'S SOMETHING...

I...



Eh...?!

SOME-THING DIRTY?

OH MY GOD, NO WAY, YUN-YUN!

For real?!

Imitating Kim!

I REMEMBERED SOMETHING PAINFUL.

...HAD ANOTHER EFFECT.

Is your brain directly wired to perversion?!

NO!! I MEAN EMOTIONALLY PAINFUL!

SOME-THING PAINFUL.

SOMETHING PAINFUL?

?

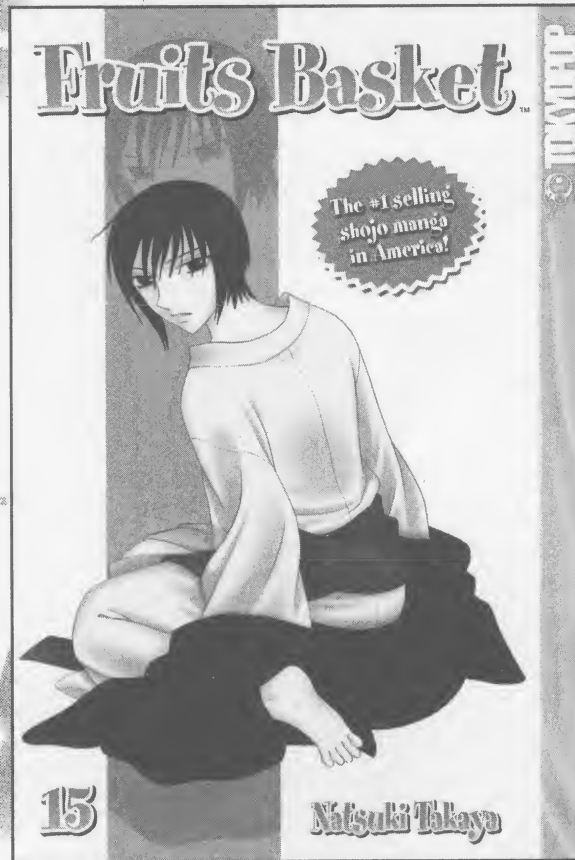
I'M STUPID, SO IF YOU JUST MAKE SOMETHING UP, I WON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

SO... WHAT IS IT? TELL ME!

WHAT'S THE POINT IN CHEATING A CONFES-SION?



Next time in...

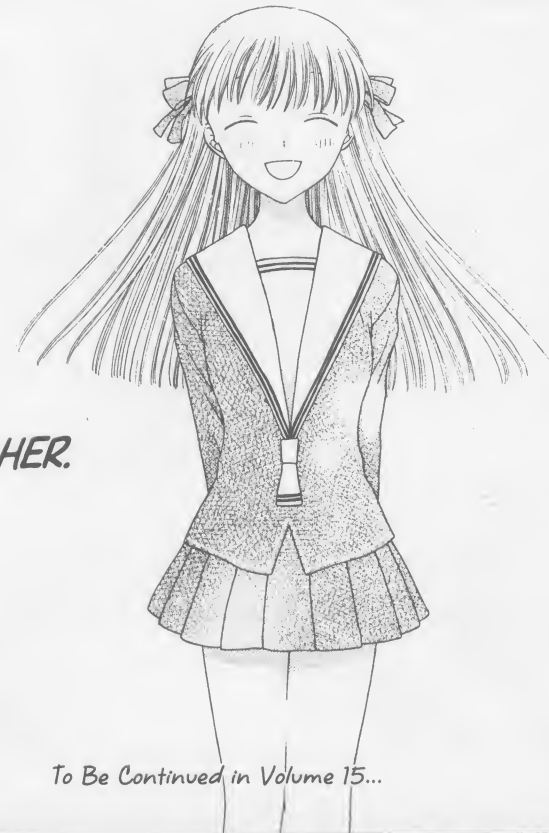


### Yuki's Painful Past...

Yuki finally comes to grips with his troubled past, recalling the events that culminated in his mother selling him to Akito. Yuki also remembers being told by Akito that he was worthless and deserving of everyone's hate and scorn. When Yuki is snapped out of his rueful reverie, he confesses that he sees Tohru as a mother figure. But before Tohru can give Yuki the gentle nurturing that he craves, she must prepare for the "Cinderella" play. Will the show be a hit, or will Arisa's feelings for Kureno cause the curtain to come crashing down?

**Fruits Basket Volume 15**  
Available December 2006

...WAS LOOKING FOR  
A "MOTHER"...



...IN HER.

*To Be Continued in Volume 15...*

# Fans Basket

For Volume 14 of *Fruits Basket*, I need to give a very special shout-out to Stephanie Duchin. As a recent TOKYOPOP intern, Stephanie had the enviable task of opening piles and piles of Fans Basket letters and sketches. She'd run excitedly over to my desk and show me her favorite drawings from all of you die-hard readers. And just so you know, Stephanie happens to be a huge *Furuba* freak in her own right! In any case, she and I really bonded over all the wonderful things you all keep sending to me. Many thanks, Stephanie! I wish you were still here, because the fan mail is piling up again!

- Paul Morrissey, Editor

Kamryn G.  
Age 13  
Boerne, TX

Seriously, how adorable is Kiso in this sketch?! I guess I haven't exactly made it a secret that she's one of my favorite characters, since I keep getting drawings of her! I also love how Momiji's shirt is way too big for him.



## Year of the Rooster: A Wake-Up Call



By nature, Roosters are highly organized individuals that tend to overwork themselves and get very depressed if they should fail in even the smallest of areas. It is their constant thirst for knowledge and their lone devotion to their work that keeps them going. Nonetheless, Roosters are always interesting and extremely adventurous in everything that they do and fame tends to follow their every move.

While men born in this year are quite boastful, women tend to focus more on the job at hand and let their influence be its own reward. Women are also very forgiving and let previous ills be forgotten instead of holding a grudge. When it comes to their appearance, Roosters are perfectionists, and these birds love nothing more than going out on the town and dancing until dawn with friends and lovers.

### Celebrity Roosters:

Hayden Christensen  
Craig David  
Bryce Dallas Howard  
Christina Milian  
Britney Spears  
Kelly Rowland  
Foghorn Leghorn  
Cornelius Rooster (Corn Flakes)  
Rooster Cogburn

## Rooster

**Years':** 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017, 2029, 2041

**Positive Qualities:** Courageous, Hard-working, Alert, Perfectionist, Aggressive

**Grievances:** Arrogant, Selfish, Timid

**Suitable Jobs:** Business Owner, Publicist, Journalist, Soldier, Teacher

**Compatible With:** Snake, Ox, Dragon

**Must Avoid:** Rabbits

**Ruling Hours:** 5 PM to 7 PM

**Season:** Fall

**Ruling Month:** September

**Sign Direction:** West

**Fixed Element:** Fire

**Corresponding Western Sign:** Virgo

Considered a favorable sign, the Rooster is the only creature among the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac to bear wings, making it the perfect messenger to bridge the gap between Heaven and Earth. Its morning crow also serves to wake the farmer from his slumber and drive away any evil spirits that might be lingering in the fields.

For anyone fortunate enough to be born in the Year of the Rooster, they are endowed with its same virtues: knowledge, credibility, courage, military expertise and benevolence. Roosters are deep thinkers and highly talented, but very prideful by nature and quite arrogant. They always think they are right and even if proven wrong, they will persist in disputing any facts thrown at them. They are often seen as being selfish or even eccentric by others, but they tend to spend what they earn quite fast knowing that what is here today may be gone tomorrow.

\*Note: It is important to know what day Chinese New Year's was held on as that changes what Zodiac animal you are. Example: 1981 actually began on February 5 and anyone born before that date is actually a Monkey.